No. 555.

STATE EXPRESS CIGARETTES

No. 444.

WANT A PEN? If so, Cut Out the "J.B." Pen Coupon on Page 20.

JOHN BULL

VOL. XXVII. No. 714. SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 1920. TWOPENCE.

[Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.]

Drink and enjoy

Lipton's Tea

If you want the best Tea, go to the firm that grows it.

The Largest Tea Distributors, Manufacturers, and Retailers of Food Products in the World.

LIPTON LTD., CITY RD., LONDON, E.C.1.

Branches and Agencies throughout the United Kingdom.

Edited by HORATIO BOTTOMLEY

Resting, but Watchful

RED HAND BEHIND LABOUR

By CHARLES PALMER

AN OPEN LETTER

Market Harborough,

[illegible] 1920.

Dear Mrs. Bull,

Faced with the necessity of either reducing the quality or increasing the price of Symington's Soups—owing to the ever-rising cost of ingredients and manufacture—we decided that the high standard of Symington's Soups must be maintained and your satisfaction assured. Hence we have been compelled to increase the prices to 2½d. and 6d. per packet.

You, of course, will appreciate that the alteration in price is absolutely essential and that Symington's Soups still remain the best—the most economical, easily prepared and nourishing food obtainable.

Yours ever,

The Proprietors of Symington's Soups.

Many Varieties—2½d. & 6d. per packet.

W. SYMINGTON & Co., Ltd.,
Bowden Steam Mills, Market Harborough.

You Can Live { 13 days without Food. 3 days without Water. Only 3 minutes without Air.

COUGHS, COLDS, INFLUENZA, BRONCHITIS, ASTHMA, CATARRH AND WHOOPING COUGH

Reduce the Air Ration below Health Point.

The natural consequence is that the breathing is affected, the bronchial tubes or bronchi become inflamed, and cough, more or less serious, follows. If neglected the entire respiratory system is weakened, and that way consumption lies. Children suffer more frequently from such complaints than do their elders, the deathrate among the very young being truly appalling, and in too many instances due entirely to thoughtless neglect.

The World's Supreme Remedy

is Veno's Lightning Cough Cure, so called because of the rapidity with which it overcomes chronic coughs and cures deep-seated and long-standing cases of any of the above-named troubles. Veno's Lightning Cough Cure, in open Competition with the world, was

Awarded Grand Prix and Gold Medal at the International Health Exhibition, Paris, 1910

for its purity, efficacy, and pharmaceutical excellence.

Many thousands of testimonials from cured patients, scientific men and doctors have been received. The following is an example.

Chas. Hyatt-Woolf, Esq., F.R.P.S., F.R.S.L., *in his work, "Truths About Things We Live On and Daily Use," says: "I have experimented in the laboratory with Veno's Lightning Cough Cure, and I have likewise applied it in practice . . . . In all cases to which I applied it the influence of this remedy was most marked."*

Ask always for Veno's Lightning Cough Cure. It is sold by Chemists, Stores, and Medicine Dealers in all parts of the world. If your Chemist is out of stock he will get it for you.

Reduced facsimile of original package. Refuse all imitations and substitutes.

English Prices, 1/3 and 3/-

VENO'S LIGHTNING COUGH CURE

Sole Proprietors—The Veno Drug Co., Ltd., Manufacturing Chemists, Manchester, Eng.

"Sartor" Raincoats to your Measure 29/6

THERE IS NO BETTER VALUE IN BRITAIN

IT IS ONLY BECAUSE WE ARE THE ACTUAL MANUFACTURERS THAT WE CAN AFFORD TO SELL THEM AT THIS VERY LOW PRICE.

No. 120. Ladies' "Easyfit" Raincoat. Belted, slip-on. Stylish, suitable for all weathers and occasions. Fully check-lined, comfy side pockets, tabs and buttons on sleeves. Can be worn with or without Belt. "Sartor" value **29/6**

No. 112. Gent's "Easyfit" Raincoat. Belted, slip-on. A smart and reliable coat. Easy fitting, well-tailored. Made of fine Rainproof Cloth, full lined. Fine workmanship. Great value **29/6**

A more tempting bargain cannot be found in the whole of the trade or at any Shop or Store. "Sartor's" lead in Value as well as Style and Quality.

You will be more than pleased with the fit and smart appearance as well as the quick delivery and low price.

"Sartor" Raincoats are made in reliable quality Gabardine Cloth in various shades, fully lined Check fibric with smart belt and buckles.

Don't lose this opportunity While others are Profiteering "Sartor's" are giving value that is building up a business of great magnitude—on recommendation of satisfied customers.

GENT'S, LADIES', MAIDS' & YOUTHS' ALL IN STOCK.

Write to-day for Free Patterns and Fashion Booklet—sent no money.

SARTOR MANUFACTURING COMPANY (Dept. J), 53, Oxford Road, MANCHESTER.

Remember "SARTOR'S OF MANCHESTER."

USE DEE & ESS COCOA ESSENCE.

The finest food beverage in the World Gives strength to Endure

Manufactured by the Mazawattee Tea Co. Ltd.

Profiteering Abolished.

1,000 Pairs New White Blankets, 66in. by 86in.,	21/-, 25/-	pair.
2,000 ,, Blankets, full size	15/-	,,
2,000 ,, Army Boots, repaired ...	16/-	,,
500 ,, Blue Trousers, Red Stripe	10/6	,,
500 ,, Cyclists' Pants, equal new	7/6	,,
1,000 Khaki Overcoats	15/- to 20/-	each.
10,000 Wool Shirts, various colours...	6/-	,,
5,000 Wool Vests and Pants, knitted	6/-	,,
500 Wool Cardigans	10/6	,,
All Woollen Hearthrug Tabs	8/-	stone.
Wipers Part Towels	6/-	,,

All Goods Carriage Paid. On Approval.

JOHN SMITH,
Government Contractor,
Ross Works, Birkstead Street, Bradford.
ESTABLISHED 25 YEARS.

The SUPER BRAND **Spinet** MIXTURE AND CIGARETTES

Hindes

HAIR TINT FOR GREY OR FADED HAIR.

Tints grey or faded hair any natural shade desired — brown, dark-brown, light-brown or black. It is permanent and washable. Has no grease, and does not burn the hair. It is used by over three-quarters of a million people. A Medical Certificate accompanies each bottle. Of all Chemists, Stores, and Hairdressers, 2/6 the Flask, or direct from HINDES Ltd., 1, Tabernacle Street, City, London.

Patentees and Manufacturers of the World-Famous Hindes Waves.

AFTER HER DINNER

a woman ought to rest. But how is she to get the time? By covering the floors with Catesby's Cork Lino. There is no other floor covering to compare with it, for it needs no scrubbing, and it saves the housewife from hours of hard labour. It preserves her strength for other things. A small deposit, along with the measurements of your room, and a simple promise to pay the balance by weekly or monthly instalments, gets you the Cork Lino at once. We pay carriage. Write for patterns and estimates to-day. For cash with order we allow 4/- in the £ discount.

CATESBYS

Ltd. (Dept. 19),
Tottenham Court Rd., London, W.

I will teach YOU to play brilliantly without Drudgery or Failure.

In a few months, with less than half the usual practice, my modern, progress-compelling **Piano Correspondence Lessons** will give you such a grip of the Keyboard and ease in reading *ordinary music*, that you shall play with spirit and feeling Songs, Marches, Dances, Hymns, and many of the famous Classical Gems.

I guarantee success to any average person. *Adult Beginners need not know a note to start.*

Send a card to-day for my illuminating little book, "MIND, MUSCLE & KEYBOARD."

Read about my System, see what hundreds of all ages and stages, say it has done for them, and judge for yourself what it can do for you.

A Lady Student writes:—"I find my arms much stronger, wrists more supple, hands broader, knuckles more separated and fingers both stronger and more sensitive. There is also much improvement in tone and speed. *Your lessons are so comprehensive and fascinating that it would be difficult not to improve."*—*Mrs. F. M. F. (Streatham).*

A postcard with full address (Mrs., Miss or Mr.) and the word Moderate, Elementary, or Beginner, will bring my book with form for free advice and opinion, by return.

MR. BECKER, 81, Bristol House, Holborn Viaduct, LONDON, E.C. 1.

BEACON OILSKINS

will keep you dry always. Men's Coats from 21/-, Ladies' from 22/6, Children's from 16/6 (3 year-old size). Adults' Sou'westers, 2/-, Long Leggings, 5/- —all guaranteed against stickiness, leakage or dissatisfaction on money-back methods.

Illustrated lists Post Free. Send Post Card now for this Art Booklet of "Weather Comfort" to

BARBOUR'S, LTD., 67, Beacon Buildings, SOUTH SHIELDS, England.

THE GREAT BRAIN FOOD.

BRAININE

The Only Cure for Brain Fag.

It is a great vitaliser. It builds up, through the brain, the whole nerve system. It makes work a pleasure. It

Solves the Drug Problem.

It is free from strychnine or any poisonous ingredient. It is no quack preparation. It is made up from the prescription of a great Brain Specialist. It is

Strongly recommended by Mr. Horatio Bottomley, M.P.

It is sold in tubes at 1/3 and 3/-. To be obtained at the Army and Navy Stores, Boots, and all leading Chemists; or direct, post free, from—

BRAININE 38, Buckingham Gate, LONDON, S.W.

The surest and quickest remedy for Catarrh, ordinary Colds and Asthmatic troubles.

HIMROD'S ASTHMA CURE

The standard remedy for over 40 years.

AT ALL CHEMISTS 4s. 3d. a tin

JOHN BULL

"Peace hath her victories no less renowned than war."
Milton.

The Paper on which the Sun Never Sets.

Politics without Party—Criticism without Cant:
Without Fear or Favour, Rancour or Rant.

"For forms of government let fools contest:
Whate'er is best administered is best."—*Pope.*

Vol. XXVII. No. 714. **Week ending Saturday, February 7th, 1920.** **Twopence.**

"THE WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL."

[The Editor discourses upon passing events and topics of the day.]

The Wrekin Election.

Elsewhere on this page we appeal on behalf of Mr. Charles Palmer, the Independent Candidate, for conveyances for polling day—Saturday. If all who wish to increase our power in Parliament will give us a helping hand, the various Party caucuses will have the surprise of their lives.

"If You See It——"

His Majesty's Judges have not been long in adopting our suggestion for the revival of the "cat" in cases of crimes with violence, such as have been so frequent of late. Hats off to Mr. Justice Horridge, who has led the way!

A Newport Mem.

Whilst at Newport (Salop) we heard of one more instance—how many have we already exposed!—in which, in spite of an alluring advertisement offering preference to ex-soldiers, the post of rate collector has gone to a local man lacking that all-important qualification. And, what is more, it has gone to an ex-member of the Town Council!

The Beginning.

What do you think of the action of some of London's Labour Mayors in threatening to withhold the Police Rate if certain men discharged from the Metropolitan Force are not at once reinstated? We have always said that municipal administration under the guidance of Labour will afford the country the best object lesson in its fitness for political power.

Another Convert.

Mr. Austin Hopkinson, M.P. for the Mossley Division, is not exactly the most delectable member of the House, but he is certainly not less courageous in the political world than he was on the field of battle. And his ink is as acid as his tongue. It is better to have a bad Government than a worse one, he tells us, adding that "a Labour Government would be worse, because it would be even more frightened." But frightened of whom?—

Uplifting.

Apropos of the declaration of Sir Oliver Lodge that a small portion of radium contains sufficient power to lift the German Navy from the bottom of the ocean to the top of a Scotch mountain, and his hope that such power would not be generally understood until the world had the necessary moral preparation to avail itself of the discovery, the Rev. S. W. Hughes, of Westbourne Park, London, exclaims: "Imagine Bottomley with the power of radium in his hands!" We presume our rev. friend means that we should in that case be capable of lifting up the entire world.

That Boxing Champion.

Our quest has now commenced, and already several aspirants are on the list. It will take a lot to convince us that Britain is devoid of the necessary power to bring back the laurels of the Ring.

"After You!"

"We are indeed witnessing a miniature General Election," writes one of our readers. "And the question is, who, in future, shall lead the country—Lloyd George, Asquith or Bottomley?" We are quite content to stand down whilst the other two fight it out.

THE WREKIN ELECTION.

CAN YOU HELP?

We make Mr. Palmer's opponents a present of any comfort they can get out of the above headlines. Our object in using them is to attract special attention to this paragraph. The poll for the election of a new member for the Wrekin Division of Shropshire is fixed for Saturday. The constituency is 16 miles long by 14 wide, and is one of the most straggling divisions in the country. Together with Mr. Palmer, we have been into every nook and corner of it—at one hour addressing huge meetings in towns like Wellington and Newport, and the next having heart-to-heart chats with little village gatherings. And all is well—if our readers will help with cars, carriages, and other conveyances for taking electors to the polling booths. Will those able to do so communicate with Mr. Palmer's Central Committee Rooms, Duke Street, Wellington, Salop?

Both Sides of the Fence.

We shall be glad to know how the *Daily News* reconciles its support of Mr. Asquith against the Labour candidate in Paisley, and of Mr. Duncan, the Labour candidate, against the Liberal Coalitionist, Mr. Bayley, in Wrekin.

Precept and Practice.

Whilst the Archbishop of Canterbury and others are urging the Prime Minister to introduce Prohibition into this country, we observe with horror that the Grimesthorpe Parish Church is offering prizes of bottles of whisky in connection with a raffle for the building of its parish room! We remember a local church in our own district once giving the following three prizes for a village race:—1st prize, a quart of good ale; 2nd prize, a pint of ditto; 3rd prize, a "good" cigar.

The German Flag.

Our letter bag is bulging with protests against the new Admiralty Order directing the British Navy in future to salute the German national flag. A good thing we are not in the Navy! And what says Mr. Havelock Wilson about his mercantile marine men?

Mr. Henderson.

Our right hon. friend Mr. Arthur Henderson will have to take great care of himself if he wishes to remain in public life. We saw him after his collapse at Wrekin, and it is quite obvious that his heart is not equal to the strain of a hustling political contest.

The Minor Criminals.

Whilst it is now practically certain that we shall never have the Kaiser over here for trial, it will be interesting to watch Germany's attitude in regard to the demand for the surrender of the minor criminals. Shall we have more "juridical niceties," as Mr. Asquith would say, to get over?

The *Deutschland*.

We would again remind our London readers that the time for visiting this German submarine monster is rapidly running out. For an inclusive fee of a shilling they may be taken by launch from Charing Cross Pier to the deck of the vessel, whilst for a further shilling they will be permitted to inspect and walk through the interior.

The Labour Programme.

According to the *Daily Herald*, the Labour programme consists of "national ownership and workers' control, of a levy on capital, of increased old age pensions, of work or maintenance for all, of better and cheaper houses, food and clothing." Hasn't our contemporary omitted one other item which, according to Mr. Henderson, is the right of the local authority—to prohibit the sale in any district of alcoholic drink? Strangely enough, Mr. Duncan also, in Wrekin, is silent on this point.

Mr. Asquith.

We have been so busy during the past fortnight in connection with the Wrekin Election that we have had little time to follow the fortunes of Mr. Asquith, at Paisley. We were highly amused, however, the other day when a Shropshire reader brought us a copy of the *Daily Mirror*, and—under the impression that it was a photograph of a similar function in which we had taken part the previous day—called our attention to a picture of the ex-Premier addressing a party of mill-hands. Mr. Asquith is undoubtedly growing more like us every day.

Local Limerick.

(*Three maid-servants at Eastbourne, discovering an armed man in the cellar, attacked him with household utensils, forcing him to drop his revolver, and to bolt for safety.*)

There were three maids who thought it great fun
To be faced by a man with a gun;
With pan and with pot
They gave him what's-what,
Till he had to "down tools" and to run.

Bradford's Millionaires.

It is within living memory that the class of people who are piling up fortunes in millions in the Bradford wool trade by holding up the rest of the community to ransom, are the same class who wrung fortunes out of the exploitation of cheap child labour. Even to-day there are men who could tell you they have seen these slave-driven children, exhausted by their toil, drop asleep by the side of the machines they served.

The Wool Scandal.

This profiteering in the wool trade is an appalling scandal by reason of its dimensions, but really it is of a piece with much that has been going on in every other business which has dealt in essential commodities during the war and since. The nation's extremity has been, and still is, the profit-grabber's opportunity. In the pursuit of money, thousands on thousands of people seem to have lost all conscience, and the authorities, instead of setting their faces like flint against it, have sat idly on the fence, winked at the plunderers, and shared in the swag.

Civil Service Pensions.

The studied ignoring of old Civil Service pensioners continues; a deaf ear is turned to them, the stony eyes of officialdom cannot see them. But Civil Servants who retired since March 1st, 1915, and were in receipt of a war bonus, are to get increases on pension pay of 40 per cent. up to £300, and of 30 per cent. if over that sum. The aged, the needy, and the helpless may go to the wall; the favourites of fortune, blessed and bonus'd, shall again be fed with milk and honey!

Reward of Merit.

A demobilised nurse, who says she has had over six years in hospital and three years military nursing, is "now offered from various places salaries of £40 and £50 a year—in the present state of things not enough to keep up the appearance a trained nurse is always expected to keep up." One cause of this sweating is that most hospitals are impecunious, and carry on from hand to mouth; the other is that nurses are not sufficiently strong in the trade union sense to enforce the public lesson that nurses, like other people, are entitled to a decent living wage.

At the Last 100,000.

Recently the Swiss Federal Council addressed to the Powers which took part in the war an appeal for the repatriation of all prisoners. Among other things, the appeal deplored the fact that "a year after the Armistice 100,000 prisoners should still be awaiting in uncertainty and anguish their deliverance." We have not heard what responses the Swiss Government have received, if any. Britain is, of course, quite ready to exchange all prisoners in her hands, except those subject to claims of justice; but in this respect Mr. O'Grady does not appear to be making very fast progress with, for instance, Trotsky and Lenin.

Plenty of Work.

The Parish of Barford St. Martin is prepared to make the money fly—but only a little of it. Its Council has a vacancy for Assistant-Overseer, Rate Collector and Clerk to its worthy self. It will pay him, in the goodness of its heart, £21 a year and £3 war bonus—which, it says, quite correctly, amounts to £24 yearly. Whoever secures those three jobs will earn the money, all of it.

A Picture for You.

Not a doubt any longer remains that the Profiteering Act is a failure, because it is a farce. One more illustration is the case of the Victoria Cinemas, Ltd., who run a café in connection with their show in Granby Street, Leicester. They extorted 4d. each for small cakes, the habitual charge for which was 3d., on the ground that it was "holiday time." The local Tribunal convicted the profiteers and ordered them to refund 1s., which they paid. There was no penalty, and there will be no prosecution. Profiteering will never cease till profiteers are dealt with as being in intent little above the class of thieves.

NEXT WEEK—FOR ONE WEEK ONLY.
Special 3rd Round Cup-tie and League Prize.
£500
— MUST BE WON —
FOR TEN WINNING TEAMS
or next largest number of winning teams.
YOU CANNOT AFFORD TO MISS NEXT WEEK'S ISSUE.

Honesty's Reward.

A Bolton working man found a bundle of twenty-five £1 notes, and on returning them to the owner was rewarded with one shilling for his honesty. So says a newspaper. What the man said is not recorded, but we can guess a few of the things he thought.

Cadets Turned Out.

Because they do not attend church except at parades, the Vicar and Wardens of St. Mark's, Peckham, have intimated to the officers of the local cadets that they cannot be allowed to rent St. Mark's Parish Hall any longer. St. Mark's congregation at morning or evening service on Sundays is usually well under 50, so it is perhaps little wonder the Vicar should yearn for a more crowded gathering. But could not the Rev. Mr Werninck—who at present lives at Putney—more effectively obtain it by living in Peckham?

A Bailie "Fair."

There are some kind-hearted gentlemen on the Town Council of Inverkeithing. When it was proposed that the Council and its contractors should pay the trade union rate of wages, Bailie Fair said he was not going to pay that rate to a man not worth it. That is commercial wisdom and unobjectionable; but the Bailie went on, "I am going to throw him aside." That was an avowal unnecessary and heartless, especially as the debate turned upon the subject of elderly men whom the dockyard would not employ. "If the Council did not employ their own ratepayers," said Councillor Carr, "it means they go to the Poor House," and he added that "the old men worked as well as the young men." Bailie Fair cried "No" to that, and succeeded in getting contractors absolved from paying union rates. They should club up, in the usual generous way of contractors, and give him a putty medal.

Warm—Fairly!

A correspondent sends us a letter recently written by the Manager of the North Western Hotel at Liverpool. "Madam," he says, "I am obliged for your favour of yesterday's date, and have reserved two single bedrooms for Captain —— for the 24th, 25th and 26th March next, at the charge of £2 per day for each person for room and board." It is suggested to us that this is very hot. Well, let's say warm—fairly. Hotels we know are hotter.

Kept Out.

Eight ex-soldiers of Warley, in Essex, petitioned the local Council for a piece of ground for allotments. There is nothing for them. Of course, there are allotments there, and some holders have two or three plots each. The eight good men and true must go without—and look over the fence. Somehow, it does seem that the necessary plots should be found for them, even though homesters have to squeeze up a little. They have earned their right to the use of a bit of land to dig in.

Christianity and Prohibition.

The Rev. J. T. Coward, of St. Leonard's Church, Leicester, has the courage of several of his convictions, and in telling his congregation that "nothing which Christ did could lead them to think that He would approve of a policy of prohibition," he is not only on safe but on Scriptural ground. The early Christians took their drink like gentlemen. It is up to the rest of us to follow their example. Those who can't or won't will really find it to their advantage to sign the pledge—and keep it.

The Wire that Vanished.

A man, foolishly trustful, sent a telegram. It was to secure a bed at a Nottingham hotel. A letter would have arrived in time, but the wire secured no bed because it never got there at all. The G.P.O. is, of course, very sorry, but, of course, it is "not liable," and the man who was obliged to tramp Nottingham seeking shelter gets no redress beyond a return of the money paid for the telegram that lost its way. It is an astute department, the G.P.O.

The Baker Explains.

Mr. Grimmond, baker, Guildford, to whom we recently addressed an Open Letter for advertising for a young woman to undertake a round with horse and cart, explains that he first advertised for a discharged soldier and received not one reply. When he advertised for a young woman, both men and girls answered, and, says Mr. Grimmond, "I at once engaged a man, who was serving a round before your Open Letter appeared." He concludes that he "quite agrees with our view," so it is a pleasure to straighten out the tangle for him.

The Sugar Ring.

Wherever you look there seems to be no sincerity, no understanding, no light in official control or de-control. Certain London importers of West Indian produce have been offered sugar in 1,000-ton lots. They attempted to sell it through brokers on the Mincing Lane market. The brokers, who are purchasing agents of the Government, will not handle the sugar because the firm have not a permit to deal with it. The Sugar Commission will not grant the permit unless the application is backed by two brokers, and the brokers are not forthcoming because all the brokers are in a ring to prevent competition. So that, with a country clamouring for more sugar, all this is kept out of the market.

Local Limerick.

(*Dr. Elizabeth Sloan Chesser says, "A new hat may have a greater therapeutic and stimulative value than any tonic purchased at the chemist's."*)

There's a Doctor Elizabeth Chesser,
Who says dress up your wife, don't caress her;
If she feels down and flat,
Why, a ten-guinea hat
Will save shillings in medicine. Bless her!

Against the Grain.

A few days ago an Uckfield farmer had delivered to him a nine-ton truck of wet brewer's grains. Before the war they would have cost about £6; now he has to pay about £40. "And this," he remarks with caustic comment, "is the cheapest grain for dairy cows." Which shows that what the brewer doesn't make out of water he can easily make out of waste.

St. Kilda's Isle.

Four natives of St. Kilda, employed as watchers for submarines by the Admiralty, tell us they are still owed a year's pay, at 2s. a day, and have not yet received their discharge papers. Twice a day climbing cliffs a thousand feet high, in all weathers—and it can be weathery on St. Kilda's Isle—is tough work, and if these old chaps are really owed the money, their modest claim should be settled at once.

From King's College.

The heads of King's College, University of London, must have been doing the Rip Van Winkle Act for the past five years. They are not yet awake, or they would never offer 30s. to £2 5s. a week for an educated man to act in the responsible position of Registration Clerk at the College. The said Clerk, desired by the sleepers, is required to have passed the London Matriculation Examination, or some equivalent, and would have the onerous job of recording all attendances of students at lectures, etc., in addition to the routine of ordinary office work. For King's College to quote such terms approaches the shameful.

Nowhere to Go.

We are given to understand that Block C of the Women's Hostel, Well Hall Road, Eltham, is to be closed shortly, and that the 100 odd girls who are at present sheltered there are to be turned adrift. In view of the acute house and apartments shortage, would it not be possible to allow them to continue in residence, where they are comfortable and well cared for? The lot of a working girl, perhaps far from home, tramping the streets in search of "diggings," and subjected to coldness, suspicion and, perhaps insult, is pitiful, and, so far as it is possible, she should be saved from it.

Australian Brides.

We have received from Mr. Arthur Rickard, President of the New South Wales Millions Club, a cablegram of fierce expletives concerning the publication of statements made by correspondents as to British brides being attacked on their landing in Australia. The answer to Mr. Rickard is that the statements were made by the assistant steward of a British ship, who says he saw with his own eyes the incidents he describes; other witnesses have described similar occurrences; whilst some very illuminating correspondence on the subject is appearing in the Australian papers.

Stay-Away Tickets.

Using the name of the Wakefield Commercial Travellers' Association, somebody played a curious trick with the tickets for a Children's Party. A man bought one for 6d., and gave it to a little girl. It then appeared that a ticket intended for use would cost 2s. 6d.—the sixpenny ones did not admit. On the back of them is this cryptic message:—"Can't come, but here is Sixpence towards the Kiddies' enjoyment." We are certain people would sooner subscribe their bawbees than be trapped out of them.

Crime and Lymphadenoma.

On the ground that the man convicted of the Wood Green bank hold-up was suffering from Hodgkin's disease, one of our readers protests against the sentence of seven years' penal servitude passed by Mr. Justice Darling and his Lordship's attitude in dealing with the case. He tells us that his daughter died of the same incurable disease, one of the symptoms of which is frequent terrible hallucinations, and he thinks that had it not been for other bank hold-ups "this particular case would have received more consideration." We can only assume that Mr. Justice Darling attached little value to the medical evidence put forward by the defence.

The Policeman's Uniform.

On a Friday a policeman personally engaged furnished rooms at Streatham, paying a deposit. On the Saturday his money was returned and the tenancy declined. Why? Because his uniform "would only give the neighbours room for talk. . . . If you had been able to come in and out of the house in private clothes it would have been all right." The man who penned those sentiments is a prig. We would print his name, but the policeman, like a true gentleman, asks us not to do so. Perhaps the opening words of the landlord's letter explain things a little:—"I am afraid I was a bit muddled last night when you called." It seems more than probable.

Oh, Hull!

Ex-Service men who joined the Hull Corporation Tramways undertaking last year as "temporary" conductors are being discharged in large numbers. Men who entered the Tramways service since 1914, and thereby evaded duty with the Colours, are being retained. There seems to be something altogether wrong about this. Surely the men who fought should receive the first consideration.

Safety Last.

When, in one day, two men, on separate occasions, are crushed between tramcars at New Cross Gate, each being removed to hospital, it is surely indicative of highly inadequate management on the part of the L.C.C. New Cross Gate is not the only terminus where similar perils to life and limb are ever present. At Finsbury Square the trams line up so quickly and in such numbers as to leave no space for a person to cross the road without risking death. When thoroughfares are so narrow, the L.C.C. should at least arrange for its trams to approach on the "safety first" principle. A car should be signalled to wait lower down the line, instead of making a block.

Starved to Death.

A man named Horrill, a general dealer, of 39, Laburnum Street, Taunton, utterly indifferent to whether two horses in his charge starved or not, went away for a holiday. When found, one "drank water madly, while it ate food ravenously." The other was lying dead, terribly emaciated, and on *post-mortem* examination its stomach was found to contain dung which it had eaten and wood it had gnawed in its agony. Though here again, as so often, the case was described by a vet. as the worst he had ever known, this callous wretch of a defendant escaped with a fine of £15, "which was immediately paid." Cruelty to animals is one of the few cheap things in this country.

"Selling the Pass."

The sale of British ships to foreigners at such times as these, when we are struggling to recover our pre-war supremacy in the maritime world, savours, to our mind, of sedition. Yet it is being done daily, the Ministry of Shipping not hesitating to boast of the profits accruing from such transactions. There is another aspect of such sales which demands serious attention. The transfer of a British vessel to a foreign flag invariably means the paying off of her British officers and crew, and in consequence, in many cases, very severe hardship. And these men did magnificent service during the war, bringing food to these shores in defiance of the deadly submarine.

"JOHN BULL'S" WEEKLY CINEMA.

When Uncle Sam is brought to bay,
He hardly knows just what to say.

According to newspaper para,
We're getting messages from Mars!

Let's hope that Smiler Hales will find
A British champion to his mind.

Smillie must think them awful asses,
To hope to win the Middle Classes.

CANDID COMMUNICATIONS.

This page is devoted to Open Letters to Celebrities, Notorieties, and, occasionally, Nonentities.

To John Bayley, Esq., Wellington College, Shropshire.

Dear Mr. Bayley,—So you have decided to go on with your candidature at Wrekin. What a foolish old gentleman you must be! Apart from the fact that your position at the bottom of the poll, when the result is declared, is one of the few certainties in political life, you must be aware that many of your original supporters, realising the hopelessness of your chances, are transferring their allegiance to Mr. Charles Palmer—knowing that their votes cannot possibly have the effect of putting you in, but that, on the other hand, by giving them to you, they will be considerably improving the prospects of the so-called Labour candidate, Mr. Duncan, who is the last man they wish to see in Parliament. Of course, having been duly nominated, you cannot now legally withdraw, but you can tell your supporters that you now know the fight to be between Mr. Palmer and Mr. Duncan, and that, if they do not wish that weird champion of the working-classes elected, their best course is to vote for the Independent Constitutional candidate. Trusting that all the boys at the College are well and that they will soon once more enjoy the benefit of your undivided attention. John Bull.

To Captain Cochrane, Secretary, Joint Pensions Committee for West and Midlothian.

Sir,—I gather that your office staff, on your own admission, consists of 6 ex-soldiers only, and 32 females. I consider your excuses for employing so large a proportion of girls and women are specious. And I must say that your selection of an hotel-keeper to take charge of the treatment and training of disabled men (a post which you omitted to advertise) I regard as a dereliction of duty towards your late comrades-in-arms, amongst whom, I am assured, an entirely suitable man for the job could have been found. I trust to hear without delay that you have reconstructed your staff more in consonance with the spirit of the "King's Call." John Bull.

To the Rev. W. J. Adams, M.A., Vicar of Doveridge, Derby.

Dear Vicar,—Some of your parishioners have sent me a copy of your magazine. I write to ask whether many of your remarks and allusions in the publication in question are not often very provocative? A clergyman is under obligation to exercise restraint in these matters. I cannot quite understand what all the trouble is about. Anyway, you seem to be always tweaking your parishioners' noses, while they are always treading on the tails of your coat. Take my tip and bury the hatchet, all of you. Seek peace and ensue it. John Bull.

To Austin Hopkinson, Esq., M.P. for Mossley, Manchester.

Dear Mr. Hopkinson,—You should not be surprised that, while the authorities are still placarding the hoardings with costly appeals to employers to engage disabled men, you are fined £5 for having them in your engineering works. The Trade Union will not let these men become members, though you are anxious to pay them £4 2s. 7d. for 44 hours if they are admitted to membership. In your own words, "You must not do anything you did not do before the war"—and as you could not employ disabled soldiers before the war, because there wasn't any, you must employ none now, though there are thousands. This dog-in-the-manger policy of the wild men of Trade Unionism discredits their cause and affronts the sense of right in all patriotic men. John Bull.

To Ex-Bombardier "Billy" Wells.

Dear Wells,—I am glad to see you have passed another milestone on the way back to your old position. Realising that, like Humpty Dumpty, you had had a bad fall, you did not call on anybody else to put you together again, but set about the job yourself, in grim and dogged earnest. That is the spirit I admire. You refused to sit down and acknowledge defeat, but set about cleaning your slate instead. You have countless admirers, all delighted with the progress you are making. They see you "coming back," and are eager to welcome you, for every true sportsman will wish Wells well.
John Bull.

To the Mayor, Sutton Coldfield.

Dear Mr. Mayor,—I am obliged to you for telling me I have been misled concerning my protest against turning Sutton Park into a place of "joy" and games. You enclose me a copy of the Bill by which your Corporation seeks further powers from Parliament, and I find these items outlined in connection with the Park: "Corporation may erect pavilions for bands and concerts—Power to make bye-laws for public baths and open bathing—Power to set apart grounds for games—Power to advertise entertainments and attractions, etc." I did not suggest you intended to do any more than that, which puts into Parliamentary words the fact that your lovely Park is in danger of being vulgarised. You suggest that "wealthy" people are "primarily concerned in the opposition," but the protests I received were from ordinary, humble citizens who object to their pleasaunce being spoiled. John Bull.

To Councillor D. F. Jones, Grocer and Member of Old Age Pensions Committee, Welshpool.

Dear Councillor Jones.—"It is really wonderful," so you are reported as having said at a meeting of the Old Age Pensions Committee, "on how little it was possible to live when living with a family. In some cases even 3s. a week was sufficient." Please inform me as to the number of calories which customers at your shop can buy for the money, for in my opinion a grocer who is able to keep the vital spark of heavenly flame alive for 3s. per week per head not only deserves to be highly recommended to the Minister of Food as a first-class friend of humanity, but also ought to be given a State grant to enable him to enlarge his premises. Meanwhile, buy yourself half a rasher of fat ham. John Bull.

To S. W. Spicer, Esq., 5, Francis Grove, Wimbledon.

Dear Sir,—As you acted the part of a humane and public-spirited citizen in giving your evidence in the case against a carter prosecuted for over-driving and overloading a horse, at Wimbledon, I do not suppose you will much mind being ignominiously and forcibly bundled out of Court by two policemen on your protest to Messrs. J. Naylor and J. C. Pilcher, the Magistrates, against the absurd inadequacy of the fine of £1 which they inflicted. The cruelty proved was gross of its kind. "The horse was quite unable to draw the load up the hill and was sweating and trembling." It was in charge of a lad in the employment of a man who was the real offender, but not before the Court. The Bench knew very well that any fine they inflicted on him would be paid by his master; that they should let him off so lightly is still further corroboration of that scandalous leniency of Magistrates in cruelty-to-animal cases on which I have so many scores of times commented. John Bull.

To Mr. Leslie Perkins, Herbalist, Wolverhampton.

Dear "Double,"—I think it is about time the police ceased from lodging you temporarily in their cells because you happen to look like another man who looks like you. You have suffered in this way on a number of occasions, while your "double" still pursues his career of fraud and has never been laid by the heels. If the police arrest you because of your appearance, I marvel why they do not nab him, the real wrong 'un, for the same reason. You are now keeping a diary, to show your whereabouts every hour of every day. If I were you, I would also wear a label under my waistcoat: "This is not the other fellow. This is me!" Accept my tip and my sympathy. John Bull.

To the Ex-Members, Profiteering Committee, Coventry.

Gentlemen,—With the exception of one solitary member, you have taken the decisive step of resigning in a body, and Coventry's Profiteering Committee is now non-existent. This was your firm protest against the uselessness of an Act which gave you no real power and only frittered away valuable hours. It was your determination not to go on harassing poor little shopkeepers and wasting your own time while the real culprits escape. And you were tired of sitting for hours enquiring into trumpery cases which ended in an order for a small trader to return a penny, while the manufacturers of the articles and large merchants were not touched. That such would be the effect of the Act has been my expressed opinion all along.
John Bull.

To the Secretary, Portman Dance Club, Baker Street, W.

Dear Sec.,—Press announcements concerning one of your Fancy Dress Dances, a Costers' Ball, describe it as intended to create an atmosphere of East End, or "low life." That, sir, is a most uncalled for and slanderous phrase. The coster is no creature of low life. He has long justified his standing as a respectable and valuable member of the community. He has his Union, his chaplain, and his "shop," which sometimes travels and sometimes occupies a stand. His methods of trade are clean and above board, and, in these days of profiteering and swindling, he is one of the most conspicuously honest tradesmen in the country. "Low life" is not for him; he holds his head among the cleanest. "'Enery 'Awkins is a fust-class name," and don't you forget it. John Bull.

To Sir John M'Farland, Town Councillor, Derry.

Dear Sir John,—At a meeting of a Work and Wages Committee of the Derry Corporation I find you expressing the opinion, on the case of a man who had applied for twelve days' sick pay, that "these men are paid substantial wages, and when invalided for a week or so there is no reason why they should be paid; these men are paid for their work, and when not working they should not be paid." This is not very generous or very just. Councillor M'Gahey declared you "once boasted that 12s. a week was enough for any working man." I am not aware whether in fact you did, but I can imagine it as one of the things you would be likely to do. To the wage-earner—especially the small wage-earner—the misfortune of illness gathers a new terror from employers like you, for it withholds bread from his mouth when he needs it the most. Such men, Sir John, have small claim on the full-hearted service of their workpeople. John Bull.

THE WHITE PLAGUE.

SAD NEGLECT OF CONSUMPTIVE SUFFERERS.

It is a consumptive patient, of East Ham, who waxes indignant—and also sarcastic—concerning the lack of National Sanatoria. According to his figures, there are 650 consumptives in the borough, 50 per cent. being in the last stages. The only residential accommodation for these walking ghosts consists of 15 beds in a farmhouse. Now, however, a house at Woodford has been bought, to be turned into a sanatorium at the cost of thousands of pounds—despite the fact that it has been condemned for such a purpose by a leading doctor of Brompton Hospital. And our poor friend concludes: "Meanwhile we are trying to carry on with a tin of malt or a six-ounce bottle of cod-liver oil, with 5s. disablement benefit weekly." The picture seems complete for the study of Dr. Addison and the Ministry of Health.

MEAN MONEY GRUBBERS.

MONEY EVERYWHERE, BUT NOT A BOB FOR CLERKS.

Recent publication of the annual accounts of that great financial institution, the London County Westminster and Parr's Bank, discloses a net profit of nearly two-and-a-half millions. Out of this vast sum, we are told, not a single penny has been directed into the pockets of the staff who have worked so hard and earnestly to secure this notable achievement. Without a blush the Directors and the shareholders absorb all the profits, and mum's the word. We thought the day for this kind of thing had passed. We thought that at long last the fair, just recognition of loyal, devoted and efficient service had become one of the accepted canons of modern business. By this showing we seem to be in error. The London County, one of the "Big Five," is apparently heedless of the claims of its staff to a share of the profits they helped to make. This greedy, graceless and ungrateful grab is not only a thorough discredit to the Board, but is likely, if not atoned for, to involve it in troubles of discontent among the employees of which it is not easy to measure the effect nor estimate the cost. It may be cheaper, in the long run, that it should do the staff justice, do it generously, and do it now.

BERGIN'S HAPPINESS GIRLS.

QUICK AT THE MONEY, SLOW WITH THE GOODS.

Mr. Charles Bergin's way of doing business at 3, King William Street, Strand, as "London Concessionnaire" of "M. Reville de Lisle, Paris and New York," does not impress us. His method is to advertise for "Happiness Girls" to buy blouses from models to re-sell for their own profit. "From the many replies I have received to my advertisement," he says in his answer to one of our readers, "I have selected yours as one of my prospective Happiness Girls. You want to make money. Happiness Girls are making from £2 to £10 weekly in a nice, quiet, pleasant way, just showing Happiness Blouses and Lingerie to friends. You can begin work at once. For example, Model 1: Costs you 20s. You sell at 25s. Profit 5s. The more models you buy the more money you make." Now let us see how Bergin stands in relation to a Tonbridge customer. "Being anxious to add to my very small means," says this lady, "I sent 35s. to Charles Bergin for sample blouses, which were to be forwarded to me without fail on 1st Jan. I have written repeatedly and I cannot even get a reply. I have requested him to send my money back, but all to no effect." We do not know whether or not Bergin is as dilatory in forwarding the goods for the money in other instances as in the one cited. If so, he had better speed up his methods to square with his engagements.

BARRATT'S DOUBLE SOLE BOOT.

There are two important features in this unique boot, the advantages of which would be immediately appreciated by a person who has hitherto worn ordinary boots.

1st. HEALTH AND COMFORT.

The ordinary type of boot having only one layer of wearing leather between the foot and the icy-cold road, absorbs the dampness which is the common cause for that uncomfortable "cold feeling" which most people have experienced.

Now the Double Sole Boot has two layers of wearing leather, the outer layer acting as a non-conductor against damp, so that the second layer (which is nearest the foot) is untouched by the cold or damp. The natural result is WARMTH and COMFORT for the wearer.

2nd. EASY REPAIRING.

The ordinary single sole boot when worn through is sent to the repairer, and invariably the removing of the old sole ruins the foundations, leaving the boot mutilated and susceptible to damp. In addition to this the shape of the foot is usually spoiled.

The second strong feature of the Double Sole Boot is this: It can be repaired without interfering with the foundation, consequently the Double Sole Boot is MORE DAMPPROOF—LASTS LONGER—and ITS MERITS ARE ALWAYS EVIDENT TO THE WEARER.

SEND **37/6** for Sample Pair.

This Clump Sole Itself Gives Ten Weeks' Extra Wear

Style No. 1655.

Sizes: All Gent's sizes stocked from 5 to 12 (size 12, 1/- extra). Each size made in four widths: narrow, medium, wide and extra wide. If size not known, send pencilled outline of stockinged foot. Boots exchanged or money refunded if unsuitable.

LONDON DEPOTS:
36, Oxford Street, W.
21 & 22, Cheapside, E.C.
57, Fenchurch Street, E.C.
166, Strand, W.C.
285, High Holborn, W.C.
12, Tottenham Ct. Rd., W.

Send. 3d, postage for large Illustrated Catalogue.

Post Orders to Sole Manufacturers,

W. BARRATT & Co., LTD.

(Dept. J.)

"Footshape" Boot Works, NORTHAMPTON.

"PRIZE" WATCH RAMP.

CATCHING CHILDREN WITH THE SAME OLD BAIT.

F. L. Lintott is the "registered proprietor" of the Invicta Supply Stores, "Invicta House," Swanscombe, Greenhithe. He advertises the usual absurdly easy puzzle, offering "A Handsome Watch Free" upon compliance with "one simple condition." Children, eager to be the proud possessors of a "handsome watch free," send in their solutions, accompanied with a 1½d. stamp, as required, and receive in return, under cover of an unsealed envelope bearing ½d. stamp, a printed congratulation on having solved the puzzle, "which entitles you to one Simulation Gold Watch Free." Then, and not until then, is disclosed the "one simple condition" with which competitors must comply. It is to remit 9s. 9d. for "our Gent's Gold Design Albert" to wear with the watch! So the "free gift" becomes a 9s. 9d. investment, and an exceedingly doubtful one at that. Recently, a schoolmaster who was in time to save one of his pupils from succumbing to Lintott's temptation, wrote to that "gentleman" threatening to bring his questionable methods to our notice. Lintott, evidently thinking it would be a good move to forestall the schoolmaster, immediately sent us the following impudent letter: "Dear John,—There are many complaints as to the cost of education and the bad training and poor education given in return, that we thought enclosed letter (the schoolmaster's) might amuse you. It must be 30 years ago since Ernest Goode started giving watches away, yet here is a teacher of the rising generation thinks he has got hold of something new for you. People will go for prizes, whether Premium Bonds, watches, football, or Bullets. Of one thing we are sure of (*sic*) we shall not be charged with profiteering in giving watches away for 9s. 9d. and all exs. paid in the 'bargain,' but we do look upon such letters as a polite way of blackmailing.—Yours, etc., F.L.L." If Lintott fancied he would disarm our criticism by sending us such a letter, he now finds himself mistaken. In our view, he simply aggravates his original offence of tricking schoolchildren into buying worthless jewellery.

A HOUSING EPISODE.

POLICE VETERAN'S DISTRESSING EXPERIENCE.

An eviction from a police-station is an unusual occurrence, and there was consequently a large, if not an appreciative, audience when the goods and chattels of Sergeant Cahill, an officer with 29 years' service in the Lancashire County Constabulary, were thrown into the street. In the ordinary way, Cahill would have retired on a full pension in 1914, and it was only owing to the war and at the request of the Chief Constable of the County that he remained in charge of the station at Waterloo Road, Liverpool, until June, 1919. At this date his postponed retirement took effect; but, owing to the usual housing difficulty, Cahill was compelled to stop on at his old quarters at the Waterloo Road Police Station, the reasonableness of this arrangement being recognised by the County Magistrates, who after full consideration declined to grant an Ejectment Order on the application of the Chief Constable. Finding his plans thus frustrated, this exalted official proceeded to take the law into his own hands, simply ordering his men to enter the Sergeant's quarters and bundle his goods out-of-doors. From the assurance with which this high-handed proceeding was carried out it is to be assumed that the Chief Constable had satisfied himself that these quarters at the police-station were not a "dwelling house" within the meaning of the special Acts for the protection of tenants—but, whatever the legal aspects of the matter, it is clear that Sergeant Cahill, in view of his long years of service, continued during the war period at the special request of the authorities, has very serious cause of complaint.

THE RED HAND BEHIND LABOUR.

HOW THE WOMEN VOTER WILL KILL THE FIEND OF REVOLUTION.

By Charles Palmer.

FOR the moment it suits the purpose of the so-called Labour Party, which cannot speak for more than a small section of the wage-earners of this country, to keep their wild men in the background. But these men are ever striving for revolution, for the setting up of Soviet government in Great Britain—that form of rule which has brought ruin and death to Russia—and for the upsetting of King and Constitution. The more patriotic and sane men in the Labour Party know full well that only by government through Parliament can we continue in the ways of peace and prosperity and really rebuild this old country of ours into a land "fit for heroes to live in." Good wages, fair hours and ample time for recreation are at the command of all of us if we refuse to listen to the hot-heads who are rushing the Labour Party to their doom, and disgusting every fair-minded wage-earner throughout the country.

While the so-called Labour leaders are trying to bring into the Labour Party those who earn their living by their brains as well as those who work with their hands, other men who are the real directing forces of the movement are secretly preaching and plotting for revolution. But some of them are bold enough to come out into the open. "I advocate revolution openly. I am confident revolution is coming. We hold Parliament and Government in contempt." Thus speaks Mr. Tom Mann. And how many of the Labour leaders who are seeking to be returned to the House of Commons have had the courage openly to repudiate the declared purpose of their outspoken colleague? "Down with Monarchy" cries William Gallagher, and Robert Smillie goes up and down the country urging the working classes to tear down the Constitution under which this great Empire of ours has been founded and built up, and to substitute the Russian Soviet with all its lingering horrors, its blood and its tears.

"Nicholas of the Romanoffs has gone, Wilhelm of the long line of Hohenzollerns has gone, Karl of the Hapsburgs, he, too, has gone; thrones and dynasties are tottering throughout the world, and I repeat, with all the emphasis at my disposal, 'God speed the day when there shall be a notice "To Let" outside Buckingham Palace'"! Thus speaks Robert Williams. Now the working classes, the vast majority of whom have no sympathy with the Bolshevik aims of Labour, are seeing in all its crimson clearness the red hand behind the movement. And what is more, they are repudiating the Labour Party and looking in ever-increasing numbers to men who knows their needs, who sympathise with their just claims, and who preach the gospel of goodwill between employer and employed.

"'To Let' outside Buckingham Palace" is a sinster threat. It means red ruin and the breaking up of laws. The decent wage-earners are loyal to the King, and hold in affectionate regard the Prince of Wales, whose bright promise will, in the due course of time, come to ripe fulfilment. And this I say with a very special reason: that the women of Britain, now that they have obtained the vote, will cast it for reason and moderation, and will give no countenance to the men whose hands are red with revolution. They have no use for the unnecessary strike, although they are always prepared to stand and suffer with their men-folk when the cause is just. They see the perils as well as the benefits of the existing Trade Union system. Thousands of them are suffering at this moment—lacking fuel and food—because of sectional disputes, one section of workers refusing to abide by the arrangements come to between worker and employer and so throwing into the street, in these bleak days, men who, anxious to work, are unable to work because of differences which common sense and cool heads could settle in an hour.

What is called the Labour Party scored a victory at the Municipal elections. Already they are showing the red hand. Because the Government will not, and dare not, reinstate the London policemen, who, in spite of all warnings, and with terms offered them which 90 per cent. of the police accepted as just and generous, determined on striking (caring nothing that the great Metropolis would be left to the tender mercies of the thieves and the cut-throats) certain Labour Mayors threaten to refuse to pay the police rate. This is the red hand behind Labour. It is a hand which, by showing itself so soon after those local election triumphs is not only raising a threatening menance, but points a warning finger for all who are able to see it.

While one section of Labour leaders is acclaiming the need for representation of their Party in the House of Commons, the other section is denouncing Parliament and all its works, and is seeking to rush the wage-earner into revolution. But they are forgetting a new factor. Women are to-day the steadying force. They know, having the home and the family to consider, that there is no hope for any class unless we can secure peaceful years in which to recover our strength, to bind up the wounds, to forget the scars of war. I am confident that the women of the country are offering a great bulwark against the revolutionary ruffian, and the sooner we have universal suffrage and give women the same rights as voters as we accord to men, the sooner shall we strengthen the foundations of a happy and contented Britain. Hats off to the women!

And it is the women who will not only make feeble for harm the red hand behind Labour—they will use their new power to force any Government to be true to its Election promises. They know how hard it is, even with the men getting higher wages, to keep the homes going so long as the profiteer is permitted to ramp through the land forcing up the price of everything. They know the need for better homes; they resent the new Education Act which will compel them to keep the boys and girls at school until they are 16; and, what is more, they mean to get this new burden removed from their shoulders. Again I say, Hats off to the women!

FLOGGED AND IMPRISONED.

BRUTAL TREATMENT OF AN UNWANTED CHILD.

A terrible case of cruelty to a defenceless child was reported to the Southport Magistrates, on a summons charging a ruffian named Rigby and his brutal wife with "neglecting Doris Mellody, aged five years, in such a manner as to cause unnecessary suffering." Coupled with Rigby's admission that he had "hit the child for its own good," was the statement of the defendants' landlady that she had "heard him thrashing the girl"; while another witness, confirming the tale of brutal ill-usage, thought "the woman was the worse" as she "urged the man on." It appears that the unhappy little victim was the illegitimate child of Mrs. Rigby, the poor mite's treatment at the hands of the unnatural mother being in savage contrast to that of the children born in wedlock. Without travelling beyond the woman's own admissions, it has to be stated that she had flogged the poor baby till it was bruised and bleeding, starved and neglected it, and locked it up in the wash-house for hours at a time, while she visited the "pictures." Neighbours testified to having heard the poor mite beating the walls of its little prison and crying aloud for food. For his share in these brutalities Rigby was fined £5, while the woman escaped with three months' imprisonment. Both sentences were inadequate. For the man a fine was, in the circumstances, a travesty of the law—while in the case of the depraved and unnatural mother, the least punishment consistent with the demands of justice was the maximum permissible

THE HOUSING STRUGGLE.

INSULTING WORDS TO A SOLDIER'S WIDOW.

The latest Rents Act lays it down that the Court, before granting an Ejectment Order, shall take into consideration all the circumstances, including the "alternative accommodation" available. But when the Governors of the Shaftesbury School, Bisley, applied at Woking for an Order against a soldier's widow, whose house was wanted to accommodate a new schoolmaster, this important point was lost sight of altogether. The widow, a Mrs. Hanbridge, stated that she had searched the district for a house but without success. while the Secretary to the School Governors admitted that they had not offered the poor woman any "alternative accommodation," for the simple reason that "there was none to offer"—in other words, there had been no attempt to comply with the conditions laid down in the Act of Parliament. Worse still, a person named Gray, representing the Governors, thought it his business to insult the widow of a man who had given his life for his country. "If she was ejected," pleaded Mrs. Hanbridge, "she and her children would be rendered destitute and homeless." Mr. Gray's reply was a disgraceful one. "Then," said he, "you will be qualified to be taken into the workhouse." These offensive words elicited a strong protest from the aggrieved widow, but none from the Magistrates, who granted the Governors an Order for possession in 21 days. Our view is that by this harsh decision the Woking Bench have set both law and justice at defiance in a manner calling for emphatic protest.

A TIP FROM TIPPERARY.

LAVISH PRIZES IN A LOTTERY SCHEME.

Lovers of mystery may have been interested in the following short advertisement which has appeared in certain London newspapers:—

> Boys or persons in all towns wanted at once as ticket sellers; good allowance given to helpers. For particulars apply J. H. Rose, M.A., Royal Hotel, Tipperary, Ireland.

On making application to the address named a Middlesex reader learned that the object in view was "A Drawing of Prizes in aid of 400 Widows and their Children." For this event tickets were to be sold at one shilling each, there being a first prize of £1,000, others of £500, £250 and £100, and 200 "consolation" awards of 40 shillings. Moreover, the big lottery proposed was the parent of a smaller one; for the encouragement of "boys or persons" engaging in the sale of tickets, there were to be prizes ranging from £50 downwards for those lucky enough to have sold the "winning numbers," while anyone recruiting a new ticket seller, and introducing him to Mr. Rose, might claim a reward of £5. Add to this a general commission on the sale of tickets at 4s. in the £, and it is evident that the promoters can have anticipated no lack of funds for incidental expenses. Perhaps at his convenience Mr. J. H. Rose, M.A., will explain under whose superintendence the "Drawing for Prizes" is to take place, whose "Widows and their Children" it is to benefit, and how—assuming the *bona fides* of the scheme—he proposes to circumvent the provisions of the Lotteries Act.

"PASSING SHOTS"

A BIG SUCCESS!

Have YOU tried this new Competition?

FIRST PRIZE

£200

SECOND PRIZE- £20

THIRD PRIZE- £10

10 Prizes of £2 : 10 each
50 „ „ 10s. „
100 „ „ 5s. „
400 „ „ 2s. 6d. „

And 1,000 Merit Prizes
consisting of two free coupons for a subsequent competition, or they can be exchanged for 1s. cash.

1,563 PRIZES
Value over £400
must be won every week.

How to Make "PASSING SHOTS."

FIRST choose any one of the thirty examples given below. Then give two, three, or four words, bearing apt relation to the example selected, **ANY TWO** of which **must** begin with the **same** letter, and this can be any letter in the alphabet. The two words beginning with the same initial letter need not be consecutive.

For instance, if you select the example: "LLOYD GEORGE," you might give the "Passing Shot": "MOST PROMISING OF POLITICIANS." Or from the example: "GEORGE ROBEY," the "Passing Shot": "MAKES EVERYBODY MERRY" might be given. Competitors can send in two "Passing Shots" on one Coupon for 6d.

Try "PASSING SHOTS" on the Coupon below.

(NOTE: An entrance fee at the rate of 6d. for each coupon must be enclosed)

Examples for "Passing Shots" Competition No. 4.

HORATIO BOTTOMLEY
MASTER AND MAN
MY HUSBAND
HARD TO FIND
MR. PUSSYFOOT
AFTER THE GIRLS
WEARY WILLIE
GOING TOO FAR
IN A FOG
THE SNOWMAN
MOST GIRLS LIKE
THE BRITISH ARMY
WHEN ASQUITH RETURNS
NOTHING ON
SHOCKING
MOST CHEERING WHEN
NEVER ALONE
WHEN RENT'S BEHIND
THE KAISER'S TRIAL
MOST DIFFICULT TO
FEELING TIRED
TELLING THE WIFE
OUR OFFICE BOY
A BAD EGG
MADE IN ENGLAND
PETTICOAT GOVERNMENT
WHEN WOMAN RULES
DELIVERING THE GOODS
RED TAPE
ROAD TO RUIN

CUT HERE

Closing Date, Wednesday, February 11th.

Example.....
Passing Shot

Example.....
4 Passing Shot

P.O. No. .....

I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced in THE PASSING SHOW.
If this coupon is used P.O. for 6l. must be sent.

Signed .....
Address .....

Envelopes should be marked "Passing Shots" No. 4, "Passing Show," 91, Long Acre, London, W.C.2.

For results of "PASSING SHOTS" Competition No. 1
and for Full Conditions and extra Coupons see this week's number of
"THE PASSING SHOW"
ON SALE EVERYWHERE — 2d.

The Difference

which you note immediately in the Electric Light bill is not a chance virtue. It source and origin is in the very design and construction of

COSMOS LAMPS

A BRILLIANT BRITISH PRODUCT

Obtainable from all Electricians, Ironmongers and Stores.

Licensed and made under British Patents Nos. 16580 of 1907; 18889 of 1909; 6081 of 1910; 1722 of 1911; & 10910 of 1913.

METROPOLITAN-VICKERS
ELECTRICAL CO., LTD.
Supply Department: 14, Long Millgate, Manchester.

SALES DEPOTS at London, Glasgow, Birmingham, Leeds, Cardiff, Sheffield, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Dundee, Southampton, Belfast.

USE COSMOS LAMPS

The NATIONAL NEWS takes national views—every Sunday.

BURSTING HIS BONDS.

Too long enmeshed in Party ties,
We see at last the giant rise.

No matter what the bonds may be—
John means to burst them and be free!

THE POUND OF FLESH.

STOPPING EX-SOLDIER'S FUNERAL PROCESSION TO ASK FOR FEE.

A week or two ago, an ex-soldier named Arthur Wetton died in the East End of London from consumption, that terrible scourge that has claimed so many heroes of the war. It fell to the lad's mother to make the funeral arrangements, and she, poor soul, had set her mind on the service being conducted in the neighbouring church of St. Mark's, Old Street, E.C. But that could not be. You see, gallant hero as he was, the poor boy had not been "confirmed" according to the rites of the Church of England—so only half the service could be held in the consecrated building, the rest at the bleak graveside. The author of this decision was none other than the Vicar of the parish—a Mr. Robinson. Nor did the insult to the gallant dead stop here. As the bearers were carrying the coffin to the grave, at the close of the truncated service in the church, the Vicar, in full canonicals, interrupted the procession to tell the undertaker that there was a fee of 5s. to pay for "Church expenses," the mourners being kept waiting while this untimely demand was conveyed to the weeping mother. It is not difficult to picture the painful scene, and not easy to acquit the Vicar of a piece of callousness, not studied perhaps, but none the less deeply hurtful. Five shillings to pay—and so the voice of the dun must intrude upon the mother's grief while the dead lad, held back from decent burial, stands hostage for the debt to Holy Church. If this ex-soldier of the King had been thought worthy of a fuller ritual at the last, there would, we suppose, have been more to pay—and a still firmer determination to collect the money before the body reached its resting-place. Such conduct on the part of the Vicar of St. Mark's, Old Street, is grossly out of place in the service of the Church.

"FOR SERVICES RENDERED."

SAD TALE OF A TRADESMAN'S RUIN AS THE REWARD OF PATRIOTISM.

Let the munition worker, who slept in comfort, ate in peace, and earned good wages during the war, miss this poignant paragraph. Let the profiteer turn this page in haste. It is only the bald account of a soldier who served, and the price he paid for his patriotism. The proprietor of a prosperous little business, assuring him an adequate income, he heard the call and—although 35 years old, and entitled to exemption—donned khaki, and left his wife to "carry on" while he crossed to France. In July, 1916, he met with an accident. Discharged from hospital in England, he returned to his home on 10 days' sick leave to find his business on the down grade and his wife's health in a precarious state. Warned by the doctor that her life was in jeopardy if she continued her efforts to keep the home and business going, the anxious husband decided to sell out. In October, 1917, he obtained leave to interview a possible purchaser. He arrived home to find his eldest son sick unto death, his only chance being an instant operation. It was performed, at the cost of the boy's life—and a fifty guinea fee. Then came the sale of his business at about a fourth of its value—a business that has since prospered greatly, and would cost four times its pre-war value to purchase back again. Meantime, the original owner has been demobilised twelve months, but has failed to find employment. All his personal resources are at last exhausted. His wife and family, being houseless, have been forced to seek the shelter of a relative's roof. The Civil Liabilities Commissioners seem disinclined or unable to do anything to put him on his feet again. What a satire is his present situation, when one compares it with that of the man who stayed at home and is wallowing in wealth to-day!

A WORD TO ST. THOMAS'S.

HOW PARENTS ARE DEPRIVED OF THEIR RIGHT OVER THEIR DEAD.

We have received a complaint from Mr. Norman Gill, of 105, Lambeth Palace Road—who has recently been demobilised after three-and-a-half years' service, and is even now suffering from wounds in the leg and nervous debility—about the treatment of his little son, 5½ months old, in St. Thomas's Hospital. It appears that the baby, thought to be suffering with rickets, died at that institution on 21st January—the certificate stating the cause of death as tubercular meningitis. Gill makes no complaint of any kind about the treatment of the boy before death. His grievance relates exclusively to what happened afterwards. He complains that, without consultation with either him or his wife, a *post-mortem* examination was held, and that when he called, previous to the burial, he found that the head had been cut open from ear to ear and otherwise dissected. The sight, indeed, was so revolting to him that he abandoned his idea of taking the body home for burial. We are sorry to say that we frequently receive similar complaints in reference to other hospitals, and we would therefore take the opportunity of explaining the law upon the subject—which is that no *post-mortem* can be held upon the body of any child dying in hospital if *objection is lodged by the parents*—a very different thing, you see, to requiring their consent, with the result that, as a rule, parents remain in entire ignorance of the intention of the hospital authorities in the matter of *post-mortems*. Most hospitals, we believe, display a notice to the above effect in their halls, but as a rule such notices are not placed in a very prominent position. No one is more appreciative than ourselves of the splendid work done by St. Thomas's, and we are sure they will give their best attention to this important matter.

Three times the wear and HALF the price of Ordinary Civilian Boots.

JONES BROS. Gigantic Offers.

MEN'S SOLID BROWN LEATHER

AUSTRALIAN BOOTS.

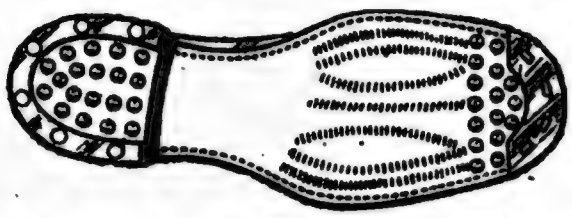
Purchased direct from the Australian Disposal Board. Perfectly New Unissued Surplus Stores.

General Pattern 1537.

30/- PER PAIR CARRIAGE PAID

The Whole Sewn Tongue Renders the Boot Absolutely Waterproof
The Soft Pliable Solid Leather Uppers Make for the Utmost Ease and Comfort in Wear
One Piece Backs
Neat Strongly Stitched Seams
1-inch Solid Leather Sewn Flexible Soles.

The diagram below shows the wonderfully reinforced nature of the durable sole.



AUSTRALIAN SIZES	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
EQUAL TO ENGLISH SIZES	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13

PAIRS — ALL SOLD

Each size in Three fittings, Medium, Wide, Broad.

Over 90,000 Pairs sold in three weeks!

Our recent huge offers (the largest offers of Boots made by any retail store, comprising upwards of 170,000 pairs and representing the entire surplus in this country, have met with phenomenal success. The public were quick to realise the extraordinary money-saving opportunity provided and an overwhelming response has been received from all parts of the country.

These Australian Boots were far and away the best issued to any Army during the war. Of best Solid Leather throughout, soft, pliable uppers, whole sewn tongues, flexible substantial soles, protected heels and toes, these Boots are absolutely waterproof to the top and will stand the hardest and sternest wear. They are ideal for Golfers, Anglers, Farmers, Millers, Gardeners, Builders, Mechanics, Chauffeurs, Transport Workers, and all who need easy boots that are substantial and weatherproof, but not too heavy.

At our wonderfully LOW PRICES—about HALF TO-DAY'S COST OF MAKING—these Boots are the most amazing Bargains available anywhere and they should be secured NOW as no like opportunity can possibly occur again.

Full Satisfaction Guaranteed or Money Refunded.

IMPORTANT—ORDER EARLY.

The only sure way to avoid all risk of disappointment is to ORDER NOW. Since our first offer three weeks ago we have sold over 80,000 pairs and by the time this advertisement appears several thousands more could be added to that number. As will be seen here many of the sizes of the 30s. Boot are already cleared, and when the whole of our present limited stocks are cleared no further supplies can possibly be obtained.

WHEN ORDERING BY POST

IT IS VERY IMPORTANT that you make all Cheques and Postal Orders payable to Jones Bros. (Holloway), Ltd., and cross & Co. Treasury Notes should in all cases be sent by registered post. By doing this you can rest assured that your payment will reach us safely, and that, although under a great pressure of orders a few days delay is unavoidable, your parcel will be despatched at the earliest possible moment. In the rare cases when it is necessary to return these Boots for exchange the sender should be sure to enclose full particulars in parcel with the Boots—not send them separately.

REMITTANCE MUST ACCOMPANY ALL ORDERS, WHICH WILL BE TAKEN IN STRICT ROTATION.

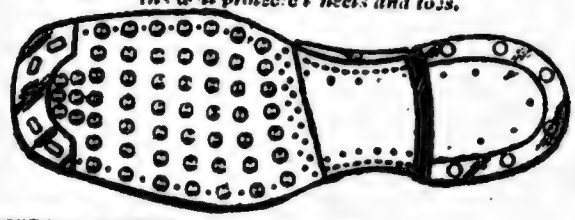
Heavy Pattern 1615.

35/- PER PAIR CARRIAGE PAID

The Whole Sewn Tongue Renders the Boot Absolutely Waterproof.
The Soft Pliable Solid Leather Uppers Make for the Utmost Ease and Comfort in Wear.
One Piece Double Stitched Backs, Extra Strong Treble Stitched Seams.

5/8 inch Double Solid Leather Flexible Soles. The outer soles can be replaced again and again without impairing the stitching, shape or comfort of the boot.

The diagram below shows the screwed double soles and the well protected heels and toes.



AUSTRALIAN SIZES	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
EQUAL TO ENGLISH SIZES	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13

Each Size in Two fittings, Medium and Wide.

General Pattern 1537 Australian Boots, Per Pair, Carr. Paid. 30/-

To JONES BROS. (Holloway), Ltd., Holloway Road, London, N.7.

Please send to address below ..... pairs of MEN'S BROWN SOLID LEATHER AUSTRALIAN BOOTS (Pattern 1537) as advertised in "John Bull," at 30/- per pair.

Australian Size..... Fitting .....

for which I enclose .....

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

.....

.....

PLEASE GIVE AUSTRALIAN SIZE, AND REMITTANCE MUST ACCOMPANY ORDER. MARK ALL ENVELOPES A.B. IN TOP LEFT-HAND CORNER.

Cut out and send your order NOW before it is too late

JONES BROTHERS (HOLLOWAY) LTD., HOLLOWAY RD., LONDON, N.7

Heavy Pattern 1615 Australian Boots, Per Pair, Carr. Paid, 35/-

To JONES BROS. (Holloway) Ltd., Holloway Road, London, N.7.

Please send to address below ..... pairs of MEN'S BROWN SOLID LEATHER AUSTRALIAN BOOTS (Pattern 1615) as advertised in "John Bull" at 35/- per pair.

Australian Size..... Fitting .....

for which I enclose .....

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

.....

.....

PLEASE GIVE AUSTRALIAN SIZE, AND REMITTANCE MUST ACCOMPANY ORDER. MARK ALL ENVELOPES A.B. IN TOP LEFT-HAND CORNER.

The NATIONAL NEWS—a clean Sunday newspaper.

THE PEOPLE'S PULPIT.

The readers of "JOHN BULL" discuss matters of Public Interest.

In giving publicity on this page to views of correspondents, preference will be accorded to brief letters bearing name and address for publication.

All envelopes and letters must be marked "P.P." in left-hand corner.

Letters for this page must relate to public, as distinguished from personal, topics.

For short acknowledgments of communications and replies to other letters—selected from our general mail—see "Letter Bag," pages 20 and 21.

"Speed Up the Omnibus Service."

The obsolete method which allows our 'buses to be stopped indiscriminately by people who are too lazy to walk to or from a regular stopping-place should be abandoned in favour of the tramway system of fixed stopping-places. The saving of time amply repays for any slight inconvenience caused.—A. WILSON-OSBORNE, Rockland Road, East Putney.

Tobacco Prices.

In view of the threatened increase in price of cigars, tobacco and cigarettes, why not make all retailers mark or stamp their goods with the date of receiving same from the wholesaler? This would stop the profiteering on old stock, and at the same time protect the retailer against loss when prices were reduced again.—F. INGLETON DAVIS, Milton Road, New Milton, Hants.

Mother's Evening Off.

Every mother should be encouraged to have at least one evening's recreation away from home every week, to give her something to look forward to, and help to brighten her life. Most mothers continue with household duties from early morning till late at night, and go to bed weary and tired. If only father or an elder child would give an eye to the little ones it would make every mother more contented and happy in her household duties.—MRS. HEALE, Eleanor Road, Woolwich.

That Reduced Ration.

I wonder if those responsible for the reduced sugar ration know how essential sugar is for children. Puddings are the main food for growing youngsters, but we cannot make them of what they need on the 6-oz. ration. The nation requires healthy children; let the Government see that we have an increased ration, not a reduced one, and then they may get what they are asking for—"strong, healthy children."—(Mrs.) J. E. WHITAKER, Happy Land, Bridge Street, Brigg.

Crime and the Camera.

In view of the increase of murder and the difficulty of tracing murderers, the practice of photographing the eyes of the victim as speedily as possible on detection of the crime should be adopted by the police. It is quite possible that an enlarged photograph of the open retina would show the person last looked upon by the dead. Even if knocked on the head by a sudden blow, most of the victims have a momentary glimpse of their assailant.—(Miss) S. F. LATIMER, Stoke-in-Teignhead, S. Devon.

Short-Sighted Chauffeurs.

Before any person is granted a permit to drive a motor, he or she should be compelled to have the eyesight tested by a properly qualified man, and where necessary glasses should be ordered to correct any defect—this fact being recorded on the licence to ensure the glasses being used. My husband, as Recruiting Medical Officer during the war, was surprised to find how many men with defective vision held licences and applied for posts in Mechanical Transport.—MRS. SILCOCK, Marston House, Belfast.

State Aid for Poor Parents.

The boy who commits a small crime is sent to a reformatory school, taught a trade, probably outfitted, and sent abroad—and becomes a useful citizen. The *honest* child of poor parents possibly becomes an errand boy, drifts into the ranks of unskilled labour, and thence to unemployment. Should not the Government give a grant to those who, by reason of their poverty, are struggling in vain to give their children a real start in life? The State should not help the bad child more than it does the good one.—G. LEO CLUE, West Street, Newport, I.O.W.

Propaganda in Ireland.

Every sane person—Irish or otherwise—knows that under Sein Fein rule Ireland would be in an impossible state, with "freedom of the individual" conspicuous by its absence. Why does not the Government go in for real propaganda work? Point out to the people (who are thoroughly terrorised) how we would open up and develop the country and remedy their grievances—which, though mostly small, are often irritating—and how they would fare with Sein Fein rule. Rightly and quickly done, this would bring the bulk of the nation back to common sense very shortly.—A. WATKINS TAYLOR, Lewisham High Road, Brockley.

Five Guineas is paid to the writer of the most interesting letter. That amount has been sent to Irving Mather.

Naval Secrets.

Is it good policy for the Admiralty to publish full details of the construction of war vessels they launch? Several nations are aspiring to the possession of powerful navies. Why should they be presented with our naval secrets of construction?—A. MACNEILL, Overdale Street, Glasgow.

School Homework.

Why not abolish this unnecessary evil? It simply means that the harassed parent has to do an appreciable portion of the work for which he pays the teacher. One has enough worries without having to wrestle with a lot of tosh which experience of life has shown to be of little practical value! The sensible plan would be to keep the child at school for an hour longer and to let it be free for the rest of the day on leaving.—M. R. INGLIS, Castle Street, Edinburgh.

Who Won the War?

English firms are now being called upon to pay 5 per cent. interest since the outbreak of war, on their debts to German firms. We have had to pay income-tax at unearned rates on it during this period. We in our turn are not permitted to claim any interest on their debts to us. Our "hidden hand," indeed, charges us 2½ per cent. for collecting them. Why are not German firms made to pay interest to us, upon our money held by them during the war? *Or* did *they* win the war?—IRVING MATHER, Worcester.

Bank Hours and Burglaries.

Most banks close at 3 p.m.—while practically all shops and other business houses remain open till some hours later, so that large sums of money have to be kept on the premises until the bank opens next day, affording great temptation and opportunities to burglars. Why should not banks be kept open during ordinary business hours and so obviate this risk?—R. W. S. STONE, Eglantine, Coalpit Heath, Bristol.

"Spotting" the 'Tec.

A complete reorganisation in the methods used in selecting candidates for our detective force is needed. The present system of picking men from the uniform branch of the Force is a failure—chiefly because the physical standard is so high that, though in "plain clothes," detectives working on a case are too conspicuous by their military bearing, which "gives them away" every time. Men for this profession should be chosen from all classes, and for special ability only. There would then be fewer unsolved crime mysteries.—J. ANDERSON, Douglas Flats, London, S.E.1.

Victims of the Vicious.

In the majority of cases of criminal assaults on young children, the offender is merely punished by a fine; and is then at liberty again—a danger to the public, especially to helpless kiddies. Apart from the injury to the child, the mother will probably become a nervous wreck, or the shock in some cases may cause another little life to be sacrificed. Cannot something be done to enforce the full penalty of imprisonment or, as in a recent case where a man of 73 "yielded to sudden temptation," a home be provided where such degenerates are constantly supervised?—EMILY FIRLY, Cawdor Road, Fallowfield.

Pensioners' Parlours.

Among recent reforms none has been more welcome than the increasing of Old Age Pensions. It now remains for the younger and better-off section of the community to unite in voluntary effort to help to brighten the lives of our pensioned civilian veterans. Why not provide a Pensioners' Parlour in every town and city where these poor, lonely old people could meet each other for a social chat and have a look at the papers of the day? The Parlour should also be open to the pensioned wives and mothers of our noble dead, and to the pensioned soldiers and sailors who have borne their part in the late or previous wars.—R. C. REID, Capel le Ferne, near Folkestone.

Gas Masks for Firemen.

What is being done with the thousands of box respirators (gas masks) left over from the war? If every fireman in the country was provided with one he would be able to enter buildings full of smoke with much less risk than he runs at present.—F. BROWN, Newcombe Road, Luton.

Babies' Woolb—

One hears much about bringing up babies to be "A1 citizens." How is it possible for mothers to clothe baby properly with wool so high in price? Nearly all baby's garments should be of wool, which is now beyond the reach of any but very well-to-do people. Unless the price is brought down garments must be made of "substitutes," and so chills are caught and seeds of weakness sown for the future.—(Mrs.) H. GIBBS, Sunnyside Road, Worcester.

"Custom of the Trade."

My baker informs me that it is "the custom of the trade" to make crusty loaves of short weight, and demonstrated his loyalty to the custom by supplying me with an ordinary "crusty," which proved to be two and a half ounces short of two pounds! Such a custom is nothing less than an arbitrary and illegal tax on the consumer. All bread must be sold by weight, and any failure or refusal to do this should be reported to the Food authorities.—(MRS.) MARGARET MORGAN, Watson Street, Dundee.

School Mess-Rooms.

Lots of school-children nowadays never get a real good dinner from one week-end to another—mother probably goes to work, and the children have to scrape along as best they can through the day. Why not a mess-room attached to each school, where the children could get a cheap meal, and a good one, by giving their names twenty-four hours beforehand, and purchasing a ticket at the same time? Many mothers would go to work more satisfied, and the children would be fed in a more satisfactory manner.—E. BUNCE, Crane Road, Twickenham.

True "Brotherhood."

Trade Unionists of one trade are, or should be, "brother workmen" of Trade Unionists in other trades. Does it ever occur to them that if they build, say, three ships instead of two in a given time, they would be finding work for three crews instead of two, also for the makers of three sets of engines, boilers, etc., instead of two sets, and so on in proportion to the many associated trades? The same rule applies to all productive industry, while "strikes" and under-production react most grievously *not* on "capitalists," but on all workers.—GEORGE E. HITCHEN, Town Square, Cowes, I.O.W.

Wages *v.* Efficiency.

We hear much to-day about the levelling up of different grades to a higher standard of wage, but no mention is made of levelling up efficiency. At present the effect of Trade Union rules is that the man with initiative is "levelled down," in so far as ability is concerned, with the slacker and incompetent, as the pay check for each man, on a grading scale, is the same—the question of efficient work not being a deciding factor. The general indifference to good work brought about by the extremely high wages paid in some industries during the war has had a deterrent effect on the nation's progressiveness.—CHAS. BASDEN, Risca Road, Newport, Mon.

Criminal Law Reform.

The recent and great increase of crime throughout the United Kingdom suggests the necessity for a new Criminal Reform Bill, providing for more drastic and practical punishment of criminals, and also giving protection and support to law-abiding citizens. If the latter works 48 hours per week to maintain himself and his dependents, then a criminal ought to be compelled to work 60 hours—and the work in the prisons should be of a remunerative character, which would leave a surplus after the cost of maintenance of the criminal had been deducted. The surplus so earned could be apportioned as follows:—25 per cent. to the State and 75 per cent. to those dependent on the criminal—thus relieving both taxpayers and ratepayers, who at present have to bear the burden of the offender's maintenance, and often, in addition, that of his wife and children.—J. H. WILDE, Rock Mills Lane, Rochdale.

An Open Letter to Mr. Bottomley.

By GEORGE HENRY.

DEAR MR. BOTTOMLEY,—

If I were asked to choose between the Premiership of this country and the Editorial chair of JOHN BULL, it would not be long before my feet were pounding up a certain flight of stairs in Long Acre.

From which you will gather that I have a very high opinion of Britain's greatest weekly journal and its Editor.

Now I want you to acquit me of any suspicion of fulsome flattery. The above words are penned in all sincerity, and, as I shall proceed to show, I have very definite reasons for regarding the Editorship of JOHN BULL as a position of satisfying usefulness and great eminence.

JOHN BULL is a paper with a personality.

It is something more than mere paper and ink. It is alive and human, and very clearly characterised by those great human qualities—courage, optimism, sincerity, strength, frankness, warm charity and clean wit. It is these qualities which have made it the great power it is to-day.

A Prime Minister resigns, and we find another—the country is very little the worse or better for the change.

But who could replace JOHN BULL?

You have made the name of the paper synonymous with truth. "If you see it in JOHN BULL, it is so." There never was a slogan so completely justified by facts.

But, great as is my admiration for the paper itself and its policy, these things alone would not make me aspire to the high endeavour of conducting it There is something more—something I know that you also know, for your knowledge of it is written between the lines of every page of every issue. I refer to the sterling character, the fine British quality of its readers.

A WONDERFUL PUBLIC.

What a superb audience! A million and a half of Britain's soundest, staunchest men and women, broad-minded, far-sighted, and sane—imbued with the sovereign spirit of common sense and fair dealing, quick to respond to every appeal to truth and justice, alive and alert to the progressive opportunities of every passing hour.

Perhaps you wonder at my familiarity with the characteristics of your readers; maybe it seems strange to you that one who has never entered your office, who has never even peeped into the masses of correspondence that reach you daily, should know so much of those for whom you are a guide, counsellor, and friend.

Listen. A few years ago you gave heed to a message which, in course of time, became a clarion call heard throughout the length and breadth of the land—a message which heralded the arising of the mightiest, revitalising, human movement of modern times.

You, with your usual foresight and decisive judgment, welcomed this movement with generous pen. Do you remember what you said? You said:—

> "*Under a business government it (Pelmanism) would form part of our national education.*"

You further exhorted your readers to "Pelmanise it"; that is, to do what they had to do in the world, efficiently and thoroughly.

YOUR FORESIGHT.

You knew what Pelmanism meant to millions who were mentally groping in the dark. You knew that an efficient mind was the greatest asset man or woman could possess. You recognised that Pelmanism—this wonderful new idea that was changing the life-course of thousands upon thousands—would become a great movement followed with all the fervour of religion. The facts spoke with unmistakable eloquence—Pelmanism meant prosperity, mental well-being, sane optimism, success, satisfied ambition, and an equal chance for all. Those were the things *you* stood for, and the sure and speedy attainment of them all was the burden of the message of Pelmanism.

To-day there is not a home in the land where Pelmanism is not known and discussed. THE FIRST HALF MILLION Pelmanists has been recorded upon the Registers of the Pelman Institute—THE SECOND HALF MILLION is even now mustering.

And of the thousands whose letters weekly reach the quiet house in Bloomsbury, which is the headquarters of the movement, readers of JOHN BULL provide an astonishing quota.

Do you know that the Pelman Institute has received correspondence from over 100,000 of your readers? I think that explains how I know what manner of men and women read JOHN BULL. And there was never a more appreciative body of people.

Pelmanism has been surfeited with appreciation from its students. Never a post arrives but bears a great mass of testimony as to the manner in which Pelmanism has enabled students to double, treble, and, in some cases, even *quadruple* their incomes. Amazing increases in earning power displayed by these Pelmanists and rewarded by their employers have become almost commonplace in the records of the Pelman Institute.

There is most enthusiastic testimony, too, as to the *enlightening* and *inspiring* powers of the wonderful "little grey books." There are human documents which tell how in the midst of doubt and despair Pelmanism came with its stimulus and optimism and drove away fear and depression; how the searching self-knowledge which Pelmanism alone can give brought self-confidence and courage that broke down all obstacles to the achievement of individual ambitions and the attainment of lasting happiness.

YOUR READERS' EVIDENCE.

In the great mass of personal testimony at Pelman House some of the most appreciative letters are from JOHN BULL readers. I could fill half-a-dozen issues of your paper with such letters without making any substantial inroad upon them, but you can well judge what your readers think of Pelmanism even from letters which have been received during the last few days. I have some before me as I write.

Here, for instance, a manager writes: "My salary has been quadrupled." He says further: "My chief appears to be taking notice of everything I do, and this I attribute to the benefits received from Pelmanism."

The next letter is from a textile worker—an enthusiastic Pelmanist, who says he has been offered a "higher job with larger salary." And he closes his letter with the eloquent remark: "Pelmanism again."

Then a lady writes to say that Pelmanism has been the means of removing the greatest difficulty of her life: "I feel the sincerest gratitude for what you have done."

There is another letter from a clerk, who says that he has been able to obtain a good position with a 200 per cent. increase of salary. This, he says, is solely due to Pelmanism. A commercial traveller writes: "Since taking up the Course my salary has more than doubled."

So you see your readers do not regret the day they saw the Pelman announcement in JOHN BULL.

A FREE OFFER.

I think it is the plain common sense of Pelmanism—the absence of "frills," the sure and steady way in which it carries the student along the road to mental "completeness"—that appeals to JOHN BULL readers. They realise its wonderful adaptability, too. The porter or the peer; the labourer or the lawyer; the servant or the social leader; the clerk or the captain of commerce—each in his or her own sphere finds the study of the lessons and the practice of the fascinating exercises of Pelmanism the unfailing means of betterment, whether such betterment is measured in terms of hard cash, mental vigour, or everyday happiness.

Hundreds of thousands of your readers will read this Open Letter. The Directors of the Pelman Institute ask me to extend to them all an invitation to investigate the merits of Pelmanism in its application to the individual. They have only to write to the Pelman Institute, 15, Pelman House, Bloomsbury Street, and full particulars will be forwarded, and I am authorised to say that together with the literature and testimony on Pelmanism will be sent a special enrolment form, enabling JOHN BULL readers to take the complete Course on reduced terms.

I know, and I am sure, you will be in complete agreement with me, that no reader who realises the close application of Pelmanism to his or her own circumstances will be content to remain without its aid.

GEORGE HENRY.

* * * *

All readers of JOHN BULL *are recommended to take advantage of the free offer made by the Directors of the Pelman Institute, at once. A post-card or letter of application will bring by return gratis and post free a copy of "Mind and Memory" (now in its 46th Edition), a reprint of "Truth's" famous report on the Pelman System, and the special reduced fee enrolment form referred to above. Write now. The address is, The Pelman Institute, 15, Pelman House, Bloomsbury Street, London, W.C. 1.*

Overseas addresses: 46–48, *Market Street, Melbourne*; *Temple Building, Toronto*; *Club Arcade, Durban*; *Chowpatti Sea Face, Bombay.*

For Sundays: Morning, the NATIONAL NEWS; Evening, the SUNDAY EVENING TELEGRAM

MORE SWANK FRO

The Man Who "Won the War"—America's Insult

By THE ED

WHENEVER a considered opinion upon any question of outstanding public importance appears in this journal, one of two things—if not both—is certain to happen. Either our distinguished contemporaries in Fleet Street will turn up their noses and pretend that the utterance of the naked truth is a proceeding unworthy of "the great traditions of the British Press"; or, failing this piece of Pecksniffian humbug, they will copy what we have said, and pretend they have just thought of it. As regards our recent allusions to the United States we have witnessed both these engaging phenomena. Before the first of our plain-spoken articles was published it was "not the thing" to talk about America at all, except to beslaver her with insincere compliments and to load her with thanks she had never earned. Now, while certain journals still maintain this attitude of "hush and mush," others are rapidly veering round to our standpoint, having "discovered"—perhaps that is the nicest word—that the United States, having glutted herself to repletion with the gold of the Allies, is still profiteering ravenously at their expense, while refusing to co-operate in any practical manner with the nations of the Old World in clearing up the mess of the war, and laying the foundations of the new world-polity demanded by the collapse and ruin of the Central Empires. As I say, several of my former critics have arrived at these conclusions by a process of independent deduction. So we are getting on.

Yelps from Yankeeland.

And Uncle Sam is beginning to sit up and take notice. In the *Los Angeles Times*, published right away in California, I find myself the subject of a complimentary editorial reference, more than a column in length, conceived in that authentic spirit of brotherly affection that flows so prolifically from the bosom of the great Republic. Really, my readers must taste a sample. Here we are: "This inconceivable wretch, Bottomley, alleges in his dastardly sheet that the Yankees are without honour and without shame; that American idealism is just another name for Yankee bluff; that while the other Allies were absorbed in the struggle with the Central Empires, Uncle Sam was busy getting a stranglehold on the world's markets which he does not mean to loosen without a frantic contest. . . . . Bottomley's abuse is limited only by his vocabulary. This fellow is a red reproach to the British Parliament. His ingratitude is as monstrous as his effrontery." And so on in the same delicate vein. Now I think I know something of Uncle Sam, and my impression is that he does not howl till he is hurt. When he begins to hiss and spit like an angry cat, you may be pretty sure he has felt something; and there is nothing punctures his cuticle like the plain and honest truth. And it is the truth I have told, and nothing but the truth. I have said that Uncle Sam filled his pockets years before he filled his cartridge-belt. I have said that America finally came into the war, not to save her honour, but to save her skin. I have said that, now that the war is over, she means to arrange a cheap peace, following a cheap victory. And what I have said, I have said. Not for all the yelping Yanks from Maine to Mississippi would I call back a word of it. Last week I dealt with Admiral Sims, whom I believe to be actuated by feelings of sincere goodwill towards this country. But I am afraid the distinguished Admiral is the exception rather than the rule. Consider the case of General Pershing, who, as everyone remembers, was in command of the American troops in France. It is a matter of history that one, Bill Adams won the Battle of Waterloo. Well, in the same way, if we are to swallow his own tale, John Pershing won the war against Germany. Others were present, it is true; but it was he who took the trick and won the rubber. And this is his account of the affair, communicated by himself to an American society known as the "Veterans of the World War." It should be explained that in America the term "veteran" is technically applied to any soldier who was in France longer than a fortnight. Says General Pershing: "After the tide of war had been turned by the Americans and the Allied Forces had assumed the initiative, I chose the Argonne sector for the Americans because I knew it was difficult, and because of its importance, being the nearest route to the German lines of communication. It was necessary to cut through the German Army, fighting through a strongly fortified terrain, and I knew none but the Americans could do it. In 1918 the Allies learned that the Americans were the best soldiers in Europe. Then they gave them the right of way." These, mark you, are the words, not of a green-livered hack on a Wild West newspaper, shrieking for his livelihood, but of the Commander-in-Chief of the American Forces, who not so long ago was receiving the generous hospitality of this country, whose real "veteran" troops he now insults by implications which are as false as they are offensive. Beyond this I will simply remark that it was only, so to speak, by a narrow margin of luck that there was an American military campaign at all for General Pershing to "blow" about. But for the final menace of the Hun submarine campaign—*and the discovery of the German intrigue with Mexico*—he might have had no chance of "winning the war" and crowning himself with laurels of his own manufacture—for we know that until a late stage of the contest the amazing Wilson was unable to detect any moral distinction between the aims of the belligerents. As late as 1916, when for two years the barbarous invaders of Europe's liberties had been marching through every form of villainy to the achievement of their foul purposes, this pale-blooded pedant, aloof from war's awful realities, was able to declare that "both sides seemed to be fighting for the same thing." In that mood, naturally, President Wilson would never have allowed General Pershing to win the war for us! But, seriously, what a miserable, never-to-be-forgotten travesty of the vital essence of the great struggle in which we were engaged! Never was this base betrayal of the root principles of morality, of the fundamental distinction between Right and Wrong, more ruthlessly castigated than in the following terms, richly deserving to be recalled in this hour of American slothful failure to rise to the height of her Destiny: "To say that the Germans, who trampled the Belgians under the heel, and are at this moment transporting 100,000 Belgians to serve as State slaves in Germany, are fighting for the same things as their hunted victims, is not only a falsehood, but a callous and most immoral falsehood, shocking to every high-minded man who loves the peace of righteousness." So, to his eternal honour, spoke Theodore Roosevelt. To-day, alas! that clarion voice is silent. If it were otherwise, it would only be necessary for "Teddy" to show his teeth to set these buck-jumping bronchos scattering for the prairie. But there is the position. What do you think of it?

"We *Don't* Think," says America.

And here let me say that I strongly deprecate the action of a section of the Press in this country in "featuring" the utterances of American public men on the situation in Europe, as though their views were to determine the policy of the Allied Governments. All this talk of our "economic" situation, and the views of Mr. Hoover or Mr. Glass, or other Yankee wiseacres, as to how it should be dealt with, is lamentably beside the point. For there is no mystery about the American attitude in these matters. You can take every American opinion that has been published—every bit of gratuitous advice that has been tendered—and when all boiled down together it comes to this: "America is doing quite nicely, thank you, and, as far as she is concerned, Europe can stew in her own juice." She made war because she thought she was in danger, and she won't trouble to make a decent peace because she knows that now she is not. Paraphrasing Wilson's famous phrase, the Yankees are now engaged in the high-souled task of "making the world safe for America." The more the situation is studied, the more clearly the truth emerges. As soon as ever selfish considerations ceased to operate, the United States washed her hands of the European situation, withdrew behind the barriers of the Monroe Doctrine, and resumed her favourite pursuit of raking in the shekels. And to-day the Yanks are "feeling good." Having no scruples about trading with the Hun, they are busy pegging out claims in the German market,

FROM UNCLE SAM.

Insult to Our Dead Heroes—Let Canada Beware!

THE EDITOR.

using their virtual monopoly of important raw materials, and their control of the world's gold resources, to forestall and cripple the competition of the nations that won the war on the bloody fields of France and Flanders, and not at champagne luncheons in New York. Talk to these greedy merchants of "mandates" in Asia or Africa, of their obligations under the Treaty of Versailles, and they will ask to be excused while they go on adding up the dollars. High ideals are all very well for cutting short a war that is beginning to get expensive, but it is no use talking about brotherly love and the League of Nations to a hard-bitten Yankee broker ticking off prices with a gold tooth-pick on the Continental tape. So, when weak-kneed folks in this country are foolish enough to contemplate an "appeal" to America to help us out of our economic difficulties—for which, I may say, in passing, hard work is the only remedy—Mr. Hoover, or some other Yankee bigwig, replies in language which may be construed roughly, "We *don't* think"! But, of course, it is very wicked to talk like this.

America's Insult to Our Dead.

We ought to be delighted at having lost a million precious lives and spent—somewhere around £10,000,000,000 of money in "making the world safe for democracy," while it cost so much less to make it safe for America. When Mr. Josephus Daniels, as Secretary of the United States Navy Board, is unable to deny that at a critical stage of the war he foully insulted Great Britain, we ought to be immensely tickled with his little joke, and ask him to make, as soon as he is disengaged, another like it. We ought, I suppose, to say that upon reflection we agree with President Wilson that there was not such a lot of difference between ourselves and the Germans—the contrast between the citizens of the United States and all European peoples being like that between fresh cream and Day and Martin's blacking. This, I take it, is the way to engage the friendship of the United States and persuade her to come and play "hookem mivey" with us in the League of Nations. And, finally, I imagine, if General Pershing really insists that he won the war, we ought to have the fact officially recorded in the *London Gazette* as a matter of history. This sort of attitude no doubt would be acclaimed in certain quarters as a sign of grace, calculated to "foster good relations" between our own and the American people. To do as I am doing, and intend to do, to tell the truth and shame the Yankee boasters, is to "make bad blood" between the two nations! It is, it seems, a peculiarity of your full-blown Yank that he cannot be civil in any company that respects the example of George Washington. Well, it's no use to me. I have never believed—nor do I now—that lying and concealment are the whole art of diplomacy, and I decline to purchase the semblance of good relations at a price that only Pecksniff can pay. To my mind, the suggestion that in any sense America "won the war" is an insult not only to the British people as a whole to-day—the impoverished survivors of that grim four years' struggle—but to the brave lads who will never return—who spilled their life-blood while America could see no just cause of quarrel, who perished on a martyrs' pyre of glory while the great Republic sacrificed its honour on a cross of gold. I cannot ignore these repeated affronts to the memory of our unreturning heroes. It is no use asking me to pass them over. I cannot forget that before the United States ever put a man in the field, before she found out what we were quarrelling about, before she recognised that there was any moral difference between ravished Belgium and her brutal enemies, hundreds of thousands of our brave British boys had cheerfully laid down their lives for a cause which—not after three years of cynical calculation, but in a flash of moral intuition—they recognised as eternally and majestically Right. And, remembering this, I think I recognise my duty. At any rate, seeing any hustling braggart—from the Commander-in-Chief of the American Forces down to the meanest hack on a Pacific news-sheet—endeavouring to oust our boys from their pinnacle of glory, I can do no other than denounce him to his face as the author of foul aspersions upon the honour of heroes whose memory, while the world stands, shall never fade. By the way, are we quite sure we understand this Monroe Doctrine, which occupies the next niche above the Ten Commandments in the estimation of Uncle Sam? It is, if I may say so, a typically American product. Strictly speaking, it does not, of course, declare that the United States shall not allow itself to be mixed up in the affairs of Europe; that is only Uncle Sam's rather curt way of putting it when he is busy in the counting-house, and cannot be bothered to recognise his signature on a Peace Treaty.

The Only Way with Jonathan.

Properly construed, the Monroe Doctrine—accepted by all Americans as an essential element of policy—is quite another thing, its purpose being to ensure that *no European Power shall acquire political interests on the American Continent.* That is the salient rule of American policy, and it is only when the mood takes him that Uncle Sam turns it round and puts it the other way. Practically, it comes to this: America will not allow any European Power to interfere on the American Continent, and she will not herself intervene in the affairs of Europe—*unless it suits her purpose.* And, in the mind of the average American, including the majority of Congress, the good old Monroe Doctrine has got Wilson's League of Nations "whipped to a frazzle." So tenaciously is this Doctrine held that a section of the American people consider that the existence of the Dominion of Canada is, strictly speaking, an infringement of the rule, only to be allowed on sufferance from Washington! But it is a mistake to suppose that America stands pledged never to embroil herself in the affairs of Europe. Indeed, I believe that if the right method of approach were chosen, she might be persuaded to accept the "mandates" of the League of Nations and discharge her liabilities under the Peace Treaty. If the Supreme Council, in Paris, are really in earnest over the matter, they had better change their tactics. It is no use recalling the high example of Lincoln, urging the United States to lift her share of the "white man's burden"—to shoulder the common tasks of civilisation. Such high-souled sentiments cut no ice at all, and when they are required President Wilson can oblige more eloquently than the gentlemen at Paris. But there is a much shorter way. Do you want America to take up her duties under the Versailles Treaty, to accept the "mandates," to sign Peace with Germany and Turkey, and help unravel the "economic" tangle? Very well, it is quite simple. Show her 20 per cent!

Let Canada Beware!

Well, I have had my say—and I feel all the better for getting it off my chest. I admit quite candidly that I do not at all like the look of things "across the Herring-pond." I cannot help thinking about that big naval building programme. I remember that, years ago, a great British Minister addressed a note abroad asking: "Against whom are you arming?" And I should like to see a similar inquiry despatched from the Paris Supreme Council to President Wilson. And I keep thinking, too, of Canada. After the experiences of the war, no word other than of gratitude and affection will ever escape my lips concerning the sons of the Maple Leaf—they have amply proved their devotion to the Old Country. But they are being sorely tried. Not only has their loyalty placed upon their shoulders a heavy financial burden—which their neighbours over the border have escaped—but their allegiance to the Mother Country is being artfully undermined by an insidious and subtle American propaganda. I am no scaremonger or alarmist, but I really believe I possess an uncanny gift of correctly reading the Signs and Portents. And I see, at no distant date, formal overtures by America to Canada, inviting her to come into the great confederation of the United States. Not for a moment do I harbour the idea that her response will be anything other than an indignant refusal—*but what then?* Ah, there's the rub! Again I say, I don't like that naval building programme! I wish I felt at liberty to say more, but doubtless, ere long, I shall be constrained to do so. Meanwhile, *watch America!*

JOHN BULL AT PLAY.

RACING, FOOTBALL, BOXING AND OTHER SPORTING NOTES.

RACING.

With the limited range at his disposal the Grand National handicapper has done a good deal towards opening out the prospects. Poethlyn has to allow the younger horse, Ballyboggan, 7 lb. for an eight lengths beating a year ago. Ballyboggan may have improved meanwhile. Poethlyn himself did so at the same age.

According to Irish official estimates, Ballyboggan is handicapped as he should be with Clonree, and receives a little more than his due from Troytown. Clonree and Ardonagh have jumped part of the Liverpool country, and are close together at the weights. Lutteur III., out of the same stable as the champion, must surely have a chance with 10 st. 13 lb.; for even if he be fifteen years old, five out of the last six of them were spent in war-time retirement. I am afraid Ally Sloper has got too slow, but he is still 10 lb. down from last year, and he is a safe conveyance. But for his recent fall I should have a fancy for Lutteur III.

Monteith and Paragua are, I imagine, certain to accept for the "Lincoln." I suggest that these will be found very genuine candidates, as the weights permit of workmanlike handling. Bruff Bridge, with a Craven Stakes second and a Two Thousand fourth, boasts the class that should fit a second-rate handicap like this, even if it be thought he is better suited to a shorter course. Violoncello is to be trained for the race, and I expect Milton, who was an early season performer last year, will go. The favourite "on the lists" was Sir Berkeley before the appearance of the weights, with Royal Bucks in second demand—and, with Donoghue riding, the former would be hard to shake. He is quite favourably handicapped.

WEEK'S RACING SELECTIONS.

WARWICK—WEDNESDAY.
Chandler Steeplechase—CHILDLIKE.
Shuckburgh Hurdle—WHITE SAND.
Budbrooke Steeplechase—SALT SPRAY.

WARWICK—THURSDAY.
Chandos Hurdle—A.A
Rugby Steeplechase—GERALD L.
Upton Steeplechase—CHILDLIKE.

SANDOWN—FRIDAY.
Stanley Cup—DAY DAWN.
Prince Albert Hurdle—GOLDEN DAISY.
Mole Steeplechase—WAVYLACE.

SANDOWN—SATURDAY.
Prince of Wales' Steeplechase—VERMOUTH.
Cardinal's Hurdle—GORE'S SELECTED.
February Hurdle—HARTIGAN'S SELECTED.

Result of Football Competition No. 19

No fewer than eight of the sixteen matches played on January 24th were drawn, thus leaving eight winning teams. The following 14 competitors each sent a successful coupon, and share the prize of £250:—

H. Barron, 343, Govan St., Glasgow; Mrs. A. Carter, 124, Strand, Swansea; Miss E. Dowson, 1, Low Deanery St., B. Auckland; J. Dunlop, 66, Bedlay St., Glasgow; A. R. Frankish, 28, Mecklenburgh Sq., W.C.; Miss Gibbs, 139, Railway St., Cardiff; H. Haines, 169, Pavilion Rd., Chelsea; R. Hall, 10, Soothill Terr., Dewsbury; M. Jones, 12, Silver St., Newton, Manchester; J. E. Lees, 177, Richmond Row, Liverpool; C. Loth, Sheenhurst, Sheen Lane, S.W.14; G. Mathews, 1 Ct., 3 House, Angelina St., Birmingham; R. Parr, 31, Tower St., Winchester; R. C. Sutcliffe, 46, Clifton Cres., Asylum Rd., Peckham, S.E.15.

Another £250 *must be won this week.* Fill up the coupon on page iii. of cover.

BOXING.

Jerry Shea's stock has gone up with such a bound since his record scoring in the Rugby international that the Holborn Stadium management are to be congratulated on a smart piece of business in booking him up for a date this month.

Goddard and Coghill meet for £1,000 at the National, but the contest between Teddy Marchant and Billy Fry on the same night promises to be equally attractive. On the whole the N.S.C. programme is above the average, as it includes the belt match between Walter Ross and Harold Jones, which at least should be a "scrap."

BILLIARDS.

That was a fine victory of Mr. S. H. Fry over Major Fleming in the Amateur Championship, by 838 in 2,000 up. It is a game of curious vagaries, at which a man loses in a final in one year and then decisively beats the same opponent in the next. All through the piece, Mr. Fry has revealed a return to his former sureness of touch.

At the time of writing the tournament table has a very "modern" aspect, with Newman and Falkiner above Reece, Inman and Stevenson. In view of championship possibilities, we should have liked to have seen Aiken and Smith in the tournament. All the same, we are not yet "hedging" on Smith's championship chances.

FOOTBALL.

Next week our Football Prize will be increased to £500 in connection with the 3rd Round for the English Cup, and some League matches. This offer is *for one week only*, and all keen followers of the game should avail themselves of it.

IN THE BARBER'S CHAIR.

MR. CHARLES DUNCAN.

Good evenin', sir. Wot can I do for you? . . . *Shavin'?* With pleasure. Set 'ere, if you don't mind. Yours is jest the kind o' face I like for shavin', sir. Plenty o' jaw. Pity you wear thet merstarsh. I'm shore it 'ides a firm top lip. Yore face is a bit familiar, too, now I comes to 'ave a good look at it. Let me see, now. You've bin a Member, 'aven't you? . . . I thort so . . . *Thirteen years in the 'Ouse o' Commons?* Reely! Did you do anythink w'ile you was there—intro-jooce any pertickler measure or anythink o' thet kind? . . . Oh, you *took part in pretty near every division*, did you? I see. Jest votin' as the W'ip told you, eh? Thet's fine. Wot constituency might you 'ave represented? . . . Barrow-in-Furness? Well, I'm blowed! Then you're Mister Duncan, the Labour candidate down at the Wrekin! 'Ow is it you ain't in the division? . . . No *satisfact'ry barbers down there? No 'airdresser capable of applyin' the pomard 'ongroise to your merstarsh?* Wot, not in Wellington or Newport? You surprise me! So you've slipped up to town, 'ave you? Well, you're runnin' risks. It won't do for you to leave the field open to Mister Palmer too long. 'E's a likely 'un, take it from me. I'm rather glad you called. A friend o' mine sent me your election address the other day, and I spent quite an amusin' 'arf hour with it. I noticed as you sed in it thet "Now the wore is over, the enormous task faces the nation of reconstructin' its people." It did make me larf! 'Ow do you intend to reconstruct the people? It'll be takin' on a bit of a job, won't it? Enny'ow, I awk you, as a friend, not to try to reconstruct me, if you don't mind. I'm quite satisfied with me present arrangements, and I believe my missus is, too. *I* don't want no reconstructin', thank you. Everythink is in its place, nicely . . . Powder? . . . Jew know, sir, I can 'ardly realize as you're a Labour candidate . . . W'y? Well, a curled merstarsh, spats, and, I believe, puttin' up at the best hotel in the division—it don't quite look like Labour, now *does* it? . . . You *stand on your Parliamentary record?* Very likely. But wot is it? . . . Marchin' through the division lobbies for thirteen years! A bloomin' automatic machine could do thet! I spose you voted this way or the other, like a good boy, w'en you was told by the W'ips? But yore votes didn't prevent the wore, did they? They don't seem to 'ave 'elped very much to improve the old country—not up to now. . . . Between you an' me, Mister Duncan, I don't think you stand much charnce. I've read some o' your speeches, and you ain't quite plain enough on one or two burnin' questions. Wot about Prohibition? W'y don't you say, one way or another, wot your views are? Then there's the question o' the nationalisation o' railways. You're for it. Well, 'ow can any man o' sense, arfter the bloomin' ex'ibition the Guv'ment 'as made o' management, support sich a ridic'lous idea? But there you are! You're a Party man. You've gotter preach according to the text yore bosses give you, so I s'pose you're not to blame for having to dodge awkward questions. But I shell be very much surprised if you're returned for Wrekin, mister.!

PRINTER'S PIE.

Half-a-crown is paid to the sender of each item published under this heading. Envelopes must be marked "Pie."

"STAR":—"An American transport sprang a leak 700 MILES WEST OF NEW YORK."

"BLOEMFONTEIN FRIEND":—"South Africans' plight in England. 14,000 awaiting BIRTHS."

MR. W. HASLAM MILLS, MINISTRY OF HEALTH (circular letter):—"I enclose for the favour of review a copy . . . of a Manual on UNFIT AND UNHEALTHY AREAS PREPARED IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH."

"IDEAS":—"He turned the handle of the door . . . and flashing a pocket-torch to the CEILING, saw her lying THERE, still dressed."

"AGRICULTURAL WORLD" (Liberia):—"WELLINGTON, whose signal to the British FLEET WAS TO-DAY ENGLAND REQUIRES EVERY MAN TO DO HIS DUTY."

"NEW STATESMAN":—"His first wife FINALLY DIED in 1815."

"WILLESDEN CHRONICLE" (advertisement):—"Maids required, also a DAILY WOMAN FOR CLEANING MATRON."

"KENT MESSENGER" (advertisement):—"Found, after dance . . . ODD GENTLEMAN'S slippers."

"BRISTOL EVENING TIMES AND ECHO" (advertisement):—"Lodgings for Respectable Young Man; GOOD HEN."

"SOUTHPORT VISITER" (advertisement):—"Matrimony.—Particulars for stamp, regarding sober, virile AMERICAN (in U.S.A.) wanting British WIVES."

"DAILY SKETCH":—"Mrs. Darling brought . . . her own FIVE-YEAR-OLD girl . . . who has played in 'Peter Pan' for 11 YEARS."

ARE YOU QUALIFIED ? FOR THE JOB YOU SEEK ?

IF NOT—WHY NOT?

WE TEACH BY POST

Aviation	Clerk of Works Duties
Shipbuilding	Structures in Concrete
Electricity	and Steel
Mining	Draughtsmanship
Engineering	Civil Engineering
Mathematics	Boiler Inspecting
Structural Engineering	Marine Engineering
Surveying and Levelling	Motor Engineering
	Wireless Telegraphy
Architectural Drawing	Internal Combustion
Building Construction	Engines

What proof of efficiency do YOU carry? Your word to an employer is not PROOF of efficiency, but a College qualifying diploma signed by the Professional staff is definite proof that you are the right man for the high position. The Bennett College qualifying diploma is therefore a valuable asset when seeking a remunerative position.

We are prepared to produce on demand 6,000 unsolicited testimonials from successful students or pay £200 to any charity you appoint. If we have helped 5,000 to prosperity, surely we can help YOU.

If you are interested in any trade as shown in the list above, we will send you our **FREE BOOKLET.** Parents should seek our advice for their sons.

Write to-day mentioning which subject you are interested in. Please state your age.

THE BENNETT COLLEGE
(Dept. 31), SHEFFIELD. Estab. 1900.

HAVE YOUR SUIT TURNED

NO matter how old your suit may be, it can be cleaned, "turned" and made to look like new. Outbreast pockets, buttonholes and defective parts overcome by our French Invisible Weaving Staff. Suits, Overcoats and Ladies' Costumes are all capable of being "turned" by the Invisible Repair Co.'s scientific method.

Write for Descriptive Booklet and send garments for estimate.

THE INVISIBLE REPAIR Co. *(Dept. A)*, St. Martin's Court, Ludgate Hill, London, E.C. 4. *(Our only address—late of 115, Fleet Street E.C. 4.)*

SMALL ADS. WORTH WATCHING

(Prepaid, 6½ per line, minimum 3 lines).

PEDIGREE SEEDS.—Scotch Potatoes, Bulbs, Tools, etc. Reliable quality, less than prices. 44-page catalogue free.—Ellison's, West Bromwich. Estd. 1869.

GOOD SPARE-TIME AGENCY.—Applications invited from respectable working man in regular employment to supply Boots, Suits, Drapery, Watches and Jewellery for cash or credit. Liberal supply of samples. Commission, highest paid.—Apply Freeman, Contractors H.M. Govt., Lavender Hill, London.

BEST and CHEAPEST Wholesale Warehouse for Beginners, Demonstrs, Drapery, Hemmades, Travellers Samples. Send for Catalogue free.—Cochrane's Warehouse, 1, Victoria Bridge, Manchester.

HARRIS Tweeds, direct from Scotland, genuine hand made, hard-wearing, all wool tweed, direct from weaver to wearer. 11s. 6d. a yard; elected patts post free.—A. Driver (Dept. 34), 56, Eastgate, Inverness, Scotland

BOOTS.—1s. Save 1. Buy Direct from our Northampton Factory. Gents', Ladies' and Children's Boots. Send for Catalogue.—John Emmet, Ltd Dept 7, Northampton

ROYAL AIR FORCE.—Required: Armourers, Carpenters, Clerks, Cooks, Drivers, M.T., Electricians, Fabric Workers, Instrument Repairers, Photographers, Riggers, Hospital Orderlies, Vulcanisers, Wireless Mechanics, Wireless Operators. Pay 3/- to 13/- per day. Apply Inspector of Recruiting, 4, Henrietta Street, London, W.C.

ENGINEERING.—Electrical, Mechanical, Motor Draughtsmanship, Aero Engines, Mathematics. We teach by post any of these subjects. Complete Reference Library supplied free with each course. Excellent opportunity for apprentices. Name your subject and write for our Free Book explaining our System of Teaching.—The Technological Institute of Great Britain, Ltd. (Dept. 28), 321, Strand, London.

GERMÜDELS PASTILLES for Cough, Bronchitis, Sore Throat. Half a century reputation. Boots and all chemists.

TWILIGHT SLEEP NURSING HOMES, LTD., Bushey Grange, Paddington, Middlesex. Resident Physician. Write for booklet. Lady Secretary (Office 31).

KEENOLIA CREAM keeps the hair in perfect order from morn to night with one application. Fixes and Feeds it. Makes it soft and glossy without leaving it sticky, matted or greasy. A charming hair-dressing and tonic delicately perfumed. Bottles 1/3 & 2/- of Chemists and Hairdressers or post free from Ormside Chemical Co., Ltd. (Dept. 20), 67, Poland Street, W.1

HOUSEHOLD AGIC for Chaps, Chilblains, Colds, Cuts and Burns, is only 1/3 per tin. Homocea Ointment touches the spot (all Chemists and stores). Free sample 1½d.—Homocea, Willesden, N.W.10.

THEEMAN'S HANDY KNIFE-CLEANING MACHINE, 1s. 9d., post free. Money refunded in full if not satisfied. Theeman, 29, Regent Street, W.

ACCOUNTANCY, SECRETARYSHIP, BUSINESS TRAINING.—An appointments bureau (free) is open to all qualified students of the Metropolitan College, the Varsity of Secretarial and Accountancy Training. Specialised Postal Courses (practical training and examination) taken at hours to spare time, under the most highly qualified staff in the Kingdom, comprising many First Honoursmen, Chartered Accountants and Barristers-at-Law. Fees are most moderate, and may be paid by instalments. Write to-day (postcard will suffice) for list of recent appointments vacant, particulars of scholarship scheme and copy of "Student's Guide," free of charge or obligation.—Metropolitan College Dept. 31, St. Albans.

SUGAR SHORTAGE.—Saccharine Tablets for sweetening all beverages and foods. Prices: 100 Tablets 1/1. 500 Tablets 2/6. 1,000 Tablets 5/6, post free. Larger quantities at special prices.—D. Doyle (Dept. J.B.), 16, Drummond Crescent, Euston, London, N.W. Tablets manufactured for the Trade.

GOVERNMENT "SURPLUS"

Splendid Offer of New Military

15/- LEATHER WAISTCOATS

LINED WITH SILVER-GREY WOOL

For outdoor, winter wear these Waistcoats are ideal, combining absolute protection with perfect comfort. Each garment is guaranteed and has passed Government inspection. If made to-day would cost at least 25/- each. OUR PRICE, 15/-

Cash with Order (Money Back Guarantee). Orders treated in strict rotation. All goods sent Carriage Paid.

Hundreds of other Bargains. Send for List.

CURRIE'S STORES 29, Downing St., MANCHESTER

One Spoonful—One Cake!

There's nothing to equal the richness or the economy of Bird's Egg Substitute in the making of cakes and puddings.

And the ease of it! You simply stir in one dessertspoonful of this golden powder with the flour and other ingredients. It gives a lightness and a flavor equivalent to costly new-laid eggs.

And Bird's Egg Substitute banishes all cooking difficulties. The lovely cakes and buns it makes are light, moist & nutritious.

PANCAKES are so delicious when made, without eggs, with

Bird's Egg Substitute

E.S.66 In Packets and Tins with excellent and reliable recipes.

A FRIEND IN NEED.

"VITA" CIGARETTE MAKER.

Makes 36 FILTERED or MOUTHPIECE, or 25 ordinary cigarettes instantly (with cigarette papers or tubes) with 1 oz. tobacco; equals 7 for 1d.; best tobacco 4 for 1d. Filtered cigarettes prevent Sore Throats, and save 30 per cent. tobacco, as there is No waste. Any tobacco can be used. Only weighs 1 oz. Fits in Cigarette Case. LADIES can use it.

Prices: Nickel, 2/-; Silver-plated, 2/6; Rolled Gold, 5/-; Hygenic Paper Tubes, 3/ 1000; 1/9 500. Post free. Also Trade Supplied.

KNIGHT'S VITA (Dept. J), Lismehill Road, Tunbridge Wells.

Piano lessons by Post

Write for particulars explaining how you may become a brilliant pianist with a minimum of energy and expense. Please state Mr., Mrs. or Miss, and enclose stamp for postage.

R. WRIGHT-HIGGINS, F.R.C.O., 7, Oak House, Parkhurst Rd., N.7.

SAVE TIME

and temper by using a "MAB," the only razor which combines safety and usefulness. Removes the hair quickly and smoothly with minimum amount of trouble.

BLACK HANDLES ... 4/6
IVORY HANDLES ... 8/-

Of Ironmongers and Stores, or direct from
"MAB" Co. 73 D Newhall St., BIRMINGHAM

STONE'S GINGER WINE

Sold by the glass at all bars, buffets, theatres, &c.

If any difficulty in obtaining, write to the proprietors, "Stone's Ginger Wine," Moreland Street, London, E.C.1.

"TOMMY AND JACK."

Dealing also with the Discharged Sailor and Soldier and their Dependents.

OUR PLEDGE.—"No case of hardship or injustice, no instance of beggarly treatment or mean cheeseparing, shall go unchallenged or unremedied."—*Horatio Bottomley*, 19th August, 1916.

"TOMMY."

All Clear!—We are asked daily, when will men in India who are entitled to demobilisation be sent home? We are now officially informed that the last men of the category were evacuated from the East a week ago, bar those who elected to remain out there or who are in hospital.

Treated Like "Rookies":—In November last the 23rd Middlesex were sent home from the Rhine to Clipstone Camp, where they have been wasting time ever since. They were "finished" soldiers long ago; yet they are treated like recruits, even to saluting "by numbers." Like many thousands of other troops at home, the men are eating up the taxpayers' "Bradburys," and should be sent back to civilian life as soon as possible.

In the Wrong Shop:—Last week a leading London paper informed us that the Royal Army Service Corps are "affectionately known as the Linseed Lancers." The Royal Army Medical Corps, to whom the nickname belongs, are up against being robbed of their distinction.

A Kick from Kantara:—We continue to receive complaints from Kantara, in Egypt, and would direct the attention of the medical authorities there to the condition and management of the 24th Stationary Hospital. It is known as "the Dog's Home," and seems to stand in need of an overhaul.

Only Labourers:—We again take up the cudgels on behalf of the Labour Companies in France, who are often treated in a disgraceful way, and fed on short and not always good rations. We hope soon to receive a better report than has just reached us concerning the 18th Company at Hulluch No. 1 Area. Will the O.C. make a note of this?

"JACK."

A Moan from Mudros:—The ratings at the Naval Camp, Mudros West, have been placed on Army rations, with the result that they are each out of pocket to the extent of a few pounds a month. They have also, they tell us, been deprived of their grog and grog money, and ask us to place the matter before Whitehall.

The Mail's Delay:—H.M.S. *Marlen* has been lying at Pola for over two months, but can obtain her letters from England only once in a while. It often happens that mails that should reach her take a month in transit, and Christmas parcels despatched to the ship in November are still arriving. There is "something wrong somewhere."

Cold and Comfortless:—The crew of H.M.S. *Caledon*, in the Baltic, tell us that the sheepskin coats and warm clothing served out to protect them from the bitter climate are kept under lock and key, although the glass often registers 24 degrees of frost. In these days of "cordial understanding" between the lower deck and the bridge, such things should not be.

In a Mess:—Will the skipper of H.M.S. *Collingwood* have the books of No. 15 Mess overhauled? We believe the rating now responsible for them will give him all the assistance he needs. Enough said for the present, but it may be necessary to return to the subject.

A Case for Agitation:—"The labourer is worthy of his hire," but we cannot make out why the labourers in our Royal Dockyards and elsewhere receive in wages £3 4s. 8d. a week against the £2 18s. 6d. paid to the highly skilled writers or clerks. What is the Civil Service Union doing?

"THE SILVER BADGERS."

Secretaries of Discharged Sailors' and Soldiers' organisations, in sending cases of injustice or other information, should mark their envelopes "Silver Badgers."

Bow Your Heads!—In the days of enthusiasm, boys of 15 and 16—admirable, brave, plucky youngsters—begged the recruiting officer to accept them. The sergeant-in-charge knew that they were too young, but said "Walk around the table and tell me that you are older." Whereupon the grand young Briton was enlisted. The boy was "old" enough to fight for the Flag, to suffer for the Flag, and to lay down his life for the Flag.

The Sequel:—Comes the day when his proud but heartbroken bereaved mother asks for his gratuity for service. She gets the sum, less an amount cut off because the brave lad was "under age" by so many months. The youngsters went out as men, fought like men, and died proudly as men—and this is the reward. Shame! Some of the bureaucrats in our financial departments would steal the pennies off the eyes of a corpse. No wonder the gallant comrades of our young heroic dead grit their teeth and swear.

A Question:—This for the benefit of the Appeal Boards and others who run the employment stunt. Applicants to the Exchanges for jobs are often sent to un-British employers, who offer them hedgers' and ditchers' wages because they have pensions or because they are only poor Tommies broken in the war, and are supposed to be glad to grasp a job at any old pay. If the ex-Service man properly declines to become an underpaid slave to a profiteer and goes back to the well-paid Labour Exchange officials, he is refused a resumption of his out-of-work donation. This is a matter that we are determined to look into, even at the expense of a House of Commons Committee—and we have much evidence.

"THE GREATEST OF THESE—"

[The object of our Fund is to relieve (a) the dependents of our Soldiers and Sailors, and (b) suffering amongst the people generally. No genuine appeal is ever refused, and although we see to it that adequate proof is presented in every case relieved, no harassing or degrading questions are put to applicants. Will you please help? We gladly defray all expenses of administration.]

A Foreword:—Our little Fund is very rapidly drawing towards a close; and we make an S.O.S. appeal to our friends to help us, be the donation however small. Government has done some things for certain classes of Service men and their families, but we—and you—have on our shoulders the burden of the very many who are down and out. Please remember that we pay very willingly the expenses of the Fund that brings so much happiness to stricken homes. This week we send the ten thousandth donation to our stricken ones, and are justly proud of it.

Among the numerous cases we assisted during the week were the following:—

Victim of System:—An ex-soldier, whose pension has not yet been decided, has a wife and four children, and cannot obtain employment.

An Unequal Struggle:—Another ex-Service man cannot find work, and has to support a blind father.

The Weekly Claims:—We continue to get a regular flow of appeals for burial fees, to prevent pauper funerals, and other applications from the poor to enable their "little strangers" to be born, if not in the purple, in something better than sackcloth and ashes. In connection with the latter, there are, too, many expenses which our Fund gladly defrays.

A Common Case:—A discharged soldier has five children under 16. He cannot find work; one youngster is a cripple, and the home was in a state of destitution.

A Hard Struggle:—A young fellow, the only support of a sister and his widowed mother, is ill and therefore unfit for employment. There was no food in the house.

Long Family: Short Commons:—A woman, with six children and an invalid husband, had to pawn clothing to provide food.

A HERO'S WIDOW.

(A case typical of the many of distress and hardship which have been relieved by our Fund during the week.)

This week our assistance has been invoked on behalf of a soldier's widow at Ellesmere Port, near Birkenhead, who since her husband's death a few months ago has had a desperate struggle to maintain her six children, all under 12 years of age, the youngest a baby of 11 months. Owing to the circumstances of the man's death there was no pension for his dependent wife and family; yet his record was one to be recalled with pride. Joining the North Lancs as a youngster in 1884, he served continuously for 17 years—including the period of the South African War, in which he was twice wounded, in the leg and arm; nevertheless, although never having properly regained the use of his wounded leg, he joined up voluntarily at the age of 48, a few months after the outbreak of war with Germany, serving for 2 years and 101 days prior to his final discharge in 1917. There followed a spell on munitions, and after the Armistice a period of employment at a dye works, where, through an unfortunate accident, his weakened leg was so seriously injured by chemical burns that he died a few weeks later in the Clatterbridge Infirmary. It is the widow of this hero who, since last December, has been struggling with a pluck equal to her dead husband's to keep the little home going and find food for the helpless bairns. When our attention was drawn to the case the condition of the family was one of abject poverty, the home denuded of comfort, and almost every article of furniture pawned for the sake of food—the absence of an Army pension and the postponement of the Workmen's Compensation claim having contributed to bring about this appalling condition of affairs. The clouds may lift, but in the meantime a substantial grant from our "Greatest of These" Fund has afforded some measure of immediate relief.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

H. E. S. (Highbury), £1; "Hopeful," 4s.; "Chemistry," £5; C. T. H. (Farnham), 2s. 6d.; M. E. C. (Ipswich), 5s.; W. R. P. (Camaguey), £1; Collected on s.s. *Stentor* (per W. C.), £3; "Interested," 2s.; per J. V. H. (Sutna), 18s. 6d.; E. B. (S. Benwell), 5s.; "Thanadon," 2s. 6d.; J. B. (Blairgowrie), 5s.; "A John Bull Reader," 2s. 6d.; "Mother of Five," 2s. 6d.; Mrs. T. (Chiddingford), 3s. 6d.; N. B. (Manchester), 3s.; Anon., £1; D. R. (Barghead), 6d.; T. S. T. (Petersfield), 3s.; C. C., 3s. 6d.; W. C. L. (Glasgow), 10s. 6d.; H. B. (Uckfield), 1s.; Victoria United F.C. (per C. W. M.), £6 6s.; "F.," 7s. 6d.; Mrs. P., 2s.; W. P. G. (Bournemouth), £5; R. T. (Sunderland), 5s.; "One in Sympathy" (Watford), 2s. 6d.; H. E. T. (Newport), £2 2s.; W. G. (Lambourn), 1s.; B. E., 1s.; "Thankful," £1; "Optimist," 10s.; "A Little," 1s.; "In Thankfulness," £1; A. E. B. (Wavertree), 2s. 6d.; "A Scot," 10s.; T. C., 1s.; "Judith," £1; G. M. D. (B. E. Africa), £2; A. R. (Doncaster), 2s. 6d.; "Fish," 1s. 7d.; "Pensioner" (Reading), £1; J. D. G., 7s. 6d.; "In Remembrance of Bertha" (Cambridge), 2s. 6d.; Mrs. F. S. B. (Pretoria), 5s.; "Norwood Nut," 1s.; Sergt. H. W. S. (Cologne), 2s. 6d.; S. J. F. (Darlington), £2; J. S. A. (Ayr), 5s.; D. B. (Simonstown), 2s. 6d.; "Captain," 2s. 6d.; "Mollie," 5s.; A. E. (Highams Park), 2s. 6d.; W. A., 1s.; W. W. D. (Highbury), 1s.; W. J. A., 6d.; J. H. T. (Rhuddlan), 1s.; G. C., 1s.; J. C. (Kirkcudbright), 1s. 6d.; A. H. P., 6d.; M. N., 10s.; T. S., 4s. 6d.; H. A. (Norwich), 1s.; Pte. C. C., 2s. 6d.; T. G. (Maidstone), 3s. 4d.; M. U., 8s.; S. S. (Manchester), 1s. 6d.; M. G. P. (Natal), 1s.; W. H. R. (Beaufort), 2s. 6d.; "Mabs and Jack," 2s.; M. B. (Liverpool), 2s.; P. J. B. (Muswell Hill), 2s. 6d.; A. R. B. (Portloe), 3s.; "In Memory of Mary," 2s.; W. D. C., £5 5s.; "Argyllshire," 10s.; "W.," £1; W. E. C. (Patna), £1.

"Martyred Girlhood."—We have pleasure in acknowledging the following sums sent by generous readers, to whom we tender our grateful thanks, for the benefit of the poor girl at Camberwell: "An English-Canadian," C. R., "Sky," 1s. each; Lincoln Reader, M. E., C. J. M. C., E. D., 2s. each; C. C., M. E. J., W. J. I., Mrs. A. G., 3s. 6d. each; Charlie Mac, Mrs. E., 3s. each; A. E., E. A. B., "S. Kaliag Reader," 4s. each; G. L., 4s. 6d.; L. S. A. M., Hopeful, M. M. H., "Another Girl," "An Old Pensioner," D. V. C., Mrs. M. H., "Bingoe," 5s. each; "Cantab," 8s.; Mrs. A. T., "Enon," T. F., "Sympathy," H. C. D., 10s. each; "Co-op. Employees," 16s.; "Competitor," A. V., £1 each.

LONDON JOINT CITY AND MIDLAND BANK LIMITED

ESTABLISHED 1836.

Authorised Capital ... £35,000,000 0 0 Paid-up Capital ... £8,417,335 0 0
Subscribed Capital ... £35,673,585 10 0 Reserve Fund £8,417,335 0 0

DIRECTORS.

The Right Hon. REGINALD McKENNA, Chairman.
WILLIAM GRAHAM BRADSHAW, Esq., London, ALEXANDER H. GOSCHEN, Esq., London, Deputy Chairmen.

The Right Hon. LORD AIREDALE, Leeds.
Sir PERCY ELLY BATES, Bart., Liverpool.
ROBERT CLOVER BEAZLEY, Esq., Liverpool.
WILLIAM BENNETT, Esq., London.
WILLIAM T. BRAND, Esq., London.
WALTER S. M. BURNS, Esq., London.
The Rt. Hon. LORD CARNOCK, G.C.S., London.
STANLEY CHRISTOPHERSON, Esq., London.
DAVID DAVIES, Esq., M.P., Llandinam.
The Right Hon. The EARL OF DENBIGH, C.V.O., London.
FRANK DUDLEY DOCKER, Esq., C.B., Birmingham.
FREDERICK HYNDE FOX, Esq., Liverpool.
H. SIMPSON GEE, Esq., Leicester.
JOHN GLASBROOK, Esq., Swansea.
CHARLES GOW, Esq., London.
Sir HARRY CASSIE HOLDEN, Bart., London.
Lt.-Col. CHARLES E. JOHNSTON, D.S.O., M.C., London.
CHARLES THOMAS MILBURN, Esq., London.
FREDERICK WILLIAM NASH, Esq., Birmingham.
The Right Hon. LORD PIRRIE, K.P., London.
EMMANUEL MICHEL RODOCANACHI, Esq., London.
Sir THOMAS ROYDEN, Bart., C.H., M.P., Liverpool.
Sir EDWARD D. STERN, D.L., London.
EDMUND R. TURTON, Esq., M.P., Thirsk.
LEWIS H. WALTERS, Esq., London.
The Right Hon. Sir GUY FLEETWOOD WILSON, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., C.I.E., London.
WILLIAM FITZTHOMAS WYLEY, Esq., Coventry.
Sir DAVID HULE, London.

SAMUEL B. MURRAY, Esq.
FREDERICK HYDE, Esq.
JOHN F. DARLING, Esq., C.B.E. } Joint Managing Directors.

HEAD OFFICE: 5, THREADNEEDLE STREET, LONDON, E.C.2.
Joint General Managers: R. W. WOOLLEY, R. RICHARDS, H. MARE, J. G. BUCHANAN.

BALANCE SHEET, 31st December, 1919.

LIABILITIES.	£	s. d.	ASSETS.	£	s. d.
Capital Paid up, viz.:—			Cash in hand (including Gold Coin £8,000,000) and Cash at Bank of England	60,216,796	0 11
2,669,079 Shares of £12 each, £2 10s. 0d. paid	7,172,697	10 0	Cheques on other Banks in transitu	8,050,607	8 4
497,655 Fully paid Shares of £2 10s. 0d. each	1,244,637	10 0	Money at Call and at Short Notice	18,439,151	14 4
	8,417,335	0 0	Investments:—		
Reserve Fund	8,417,335	0 0	War Loans, under cost (of which £428,067 10s. is lodged for Public and other Accounts) and other British Government Securities	64,216,943	4 3
Dividend payable on 2nd February, 1920	530,293	2 1	Stocks Guaranteed by the British Government and Indian Railway Debentures ...	405,383	7 3
Balance of Profit and Loss Account, as below	726,832	6 2	British Railway Debenture and Preference Stocks, British Corporation Stocks	243,274	9 9
	18,091,814	8 3	Colonial and Foreign Government Stocks and Bonds ...	1,611,600	5 2
Current, Deposit and other Accounts	371,743,989	0 1	Sundry Investments	727,227	1 2
Acceptances on account of Customers	29,614,568	4 5	Bills of Exchange	12,889,521	6 11
				206,889,501	18 7
			Advances on Current and other Accounts	162,962,744	16 0
			Advances on War Loans	15,589,303	5 2
			Liabilities of Customers for Acceptances	29,614,568	4 5
			Bank Premises at Head Office and Branches	3,628,980	8 7
			Belfast Bank Shares:—		
			50,000 £12 10 0 Old Shares £2 10 0 paid		
			120,000 £12 10 0 New Shares £2 10 0 paid		
			Cost £1,237,500 0 0		
			Less part Premium on Shares issued 477,810 0 0	759,690	0 0
	£418,848,771	13 9		£418,848,771	13 9

Dr. PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT for the year ending 31st December, 1919. Cr.

	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Interim Dividend at the rate of 18 per cent. per annum, less Income Tax, paid 15th July, 1919	592,211	11 4	By Balance from last Account ...	675,097	14 7
To Dividend at the rate of 18 per cent. per annum, less Income Tax, payable on 2nd February, 1920	530,293	2 1	By Net profits for the year ending 31st December, 1919, after providing for all Bad and Doubtful Debts	3,079,460	13 8
To Salaries and Bonus to Staff with H.M. Forces and Bonus to other Members of the Staff	475,203	14 8			
To Special "Peace" Bonus to Staff	250,000	0 0			
To Reserve for Depreciation of War Loans and Future Contingencies	1,000,000	0 0			
To Bank Premises Redemption Fund	250,000	0 0			
To Balance carried forward to next account	726,832	6 2			
	£3,754,558	14 3		£3,754,558	14 3

R. McKENNA, Chairman,
W. G. BRADSHAW, A. H. GOSCHEN, } Deputy Chairmen.
F. W. NASH, Director.
R. B. MURRAY, F. HYDE, J. F. DARLING, } Joint Managing Directors.

REPORT OF THE AUDITORS TO THE SHAREHOLDERS OF THE LONDON JOINT CITY & MIDLAND BANK LIMITED.

In accordance with the provisions of Sub-section 2 of Section 113 of the Companies (Consolidation) Act, 1908, we report as follows:—

We have examined the above Balance Sheet in detail with the Books at Head Office and with the certified Returns from the Branches. We have satisfied ourselves as to the correctness of the Cash Balances, Cheques on other Banks *in transitu*, and the Bills of Exchange, and have verified the correctness of the Money at Call and Short Notice. We have also verified the Securities representing the Investments of the Bank, and having obtained all the information and explanations we have required, we are of opinion that such Balance Sheet is properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the state of the Company's affairs according to the best of our information and the explanations given to us and as shown by the books of the Company.

WHINNEY, SMITH & WHINNEY, Chartered Accountants, Auditors.

London, 13th January, 1920.

THIS BANK IS THE PROPRIETOR OF THE BELFAST BANKING COMPANY, LIMITED.

By Appointment to H.M. the King.

Government Control Entirely Removed

NO MORE FLAT RATE PRICES

regardless of the Cream Contents.

The principal chemist of the Government Laboratory in his official report for year ending 31 March, 1919, says:

"The percentage of fat in the (47) samples of condensed whole milk ranged from 7.2 to 9.9. The samples with the low percentage of fat were taken from consignments of 'Evaporated' Milk. 30 of the 47 samples consisting of this product."

So long as Condensed Milk can be legally sold as such, whether it contains 7.2 or 9.9 per cent. of cream, the only protection to the Public is to rely on the well-known brands with 50 years' reputation behind each tin.

INSIST THEREFORE ON

NESTLÉ'S MILK

THE RICHEST IN CREAM

OR

IDEAL MILK

IF YOU PREFER THE UNSWEETENED

When you buy milk at the maximum price you naturally want the maximum value. Nestlé's and Ideal ensure this, anything less is at your expense.

Cash Prices per Tin—

NESTLE'S MILK	IDEAL MILK
1/4½	11D. & 6D.

If any difficulty in obtaining write direct to us. Postage will be refunded.

NESTLÉS, 6-8, EASTCHEAP, LONDON, E.C.3.

JOHN BULL IN THE CITY.

FINANCIAL NOTES—AND ADVICE TO INVESTORS.

By Our City Editor.

All correspondence relating to financial matters should be addressed to the City Editor.

Each enquiry must bear name and address and be accompanied by a Postal Order for One Shilling.

Pearson and Knowles.

At first sight, the offer of Armstrong Whitworth & Co. to purchase the £1 shares of Pearson & Knowles at 30s. each looks anything but generous. The market price was 34s. a week or two ago, and last year it ranged between 20s. and 42s. However, the directors have accepted the offer in respect of their own holdings and recommend the other shareholders to do likewise, Armstrong's stipulating that at least 800,000 shares shall be transferred to them. The company has paid dividends of 15 per cent. for the past four years, but the average for the past twenty years works out at only 4½ per cent., so that it has not been uniformly prosperous. At the same time the directors have always been inclined to adopt a very conservative policy, and the properties are probably worth a good deal more than their book value. The company also owns the bulk of the shares in the Partington Steel & Iron Co., and if the deal goes through, as is likely, Armstrongs will secure very valuable connections at what must be regarded as a very moderate price. On the other hand, businesses like Pearson & Knowles in these days of big combines must either join forces with more powerful neighbours or face heavy capital expenditure on extensions and improvements. From this point of view the shareholders may be wise to accept the present offer.

Birmingham Small Arms Acquisition.

Arrangements have been virtually completed by the Birmingham Small Arms for the absorption of the Aircraft Manufacturing Co., of Hendon, which since the Armistice has devoted most of its energy and attention to the manufacture of bodies for the motor trade. In this it has shown a wise discretion—for whatever the future of commercial aviation may be, progress will necessarily be slow, and there are already far more flying machines in existence than can be put to profitable use. On the other hand, the motor industry is making and will continue to make vast strides, and no doubt it is this aspect of the business which has mainly appealed to the Birmingham Small Arms people. The business of Peter Hooker, Ltd., is also acquired. It has a modern and well-equipped factory at Walthamstow for the manufacture of motor engines of all kinds, including the famous Gnome and Le Rhone engines for aircraft.

KAFFIR PROSPECTS.

Except for occasional, and generally short-lived, spurts the Kaffir market has not been much in the limelight recently. For many years it was easily the most active and prominent speculative section in the Stock Exchange, but the magnates were foolish enough to seek to prove that mining was really an ordinary industrial investment which should be valued on yield basis of not more than 6 or 7 per cent. They succeeded probably beyond their wildest expectations, and the public have been mourning their losses ever since. Then a generation arose that knew not Joseph, and it took to running after rubbers and oils and other things and the Kaffir division was relegated very much to the background.

There are signs, however, that the market will secure a new lease of life, mainly owing to the high price which gold now commands. Up to the middle of last year the mines had to sell their output at the fixed Mint price of 77/10½ per ounce for standard and 85/- for pure gold, but since then there has been a free market and the quotation has steadily risen. It was 117/6 per ounce the other day, and it shows a tendency to go higher rather than lower. What this means to the producers is forcibly illustrated by the quarterly reports of the group controlled by the Johannesburg Consolidated Investment Co.—the Barnato group, as it is called. For statistical purposes the working profit is shown on the old basis of standard prices, and the amount obtained as gold premium is stated separately. Although the average premium up to the end of the year was only about 19 per cent. against the present level of 45 per cent., the additional profits from this source are enormous.

Of course the mines have to face higher working costs for stores and other materials, and demands for increased wages are being put forward both by the white staffs and by the native "boys," but there is a big margin to play with after all reasonable claims have been satisfied. The market has also been kept back by fears of heavy selling from the Continent owing to the position of the exchanges, but these restraining influences cannot continue to operate much longer, and I anticipate a considerable revival of interest in gold mining ventures in the near future.

Home Railway Results.

Nothing seems able to stir the Home Railway market out of its lethargic condition—even the announcement of the first dividends in respect of the past half year failed to stimulate any great amount of interest. The Great Eastern pays 2½ per cent. against 2 per cent., making 2½ per cent. for the year against 2½ per cent., while £35,000 is placed to reserve and the large amount of £114,000 is carried forward. Dealers and shareholders would have been better pleased if the dividend had been raised to 3 per cent., which might easily have been done by reducing the carry forward, and I think it is a pity the directors did not adopt this course. However, at the present market price the yield is about 7½ per cent. and even in these times that is a very handsome return. The Brighton pays 4½ per cent. for the year on the Deferred, the same as for 1918, but the carry forward is £7,000 larger. When the dividend is taken off, the stock will look very cheap round 56—the yield is over 7½ per cent. Unfortunately, no one can be quite sure what is going to happen to the railways when Government control and subsidies are withdrawn, but, as I have repeatedly said, I think shareholders need not be unduly anxious.

Maikop-Taman Oil.

The Directors have acted very wisely in recognising the inevitable, and have abandoned the development of their Russian properties, owing of course to the unsettled state of the country and the futility of anticipating any improvement in the Russian outlook in the near future. Consequently they have turned their attention to oil propositions within the British Empire, and have acquired properties in the county of Kent, Ontario, which have been exceptionally well reported upon. It is common knowledge that the Ontario oilfield is one of the most productive petroleum centres in the continent of America, if not in the world. Hitherto much valuable oil has been allowed to run to waste, so that any extension of enterprise in this field is noteworthy and should be highly profitable. The discoveries on the new properties of the Company reveal the existence of oil at an approximate depth of 3,000 ft., with every indication of permanency—so that the future of the undertaking, which must have been one of extreme anxiety in the past, now looks very healthy.

OUR FINANCIAL LETTER BAG.

EDITORIAL REPLIES.

(All enquiries must be accompanied by a postal order for 1s., and bear the full name and address of correspondent as evidence of good faith.)

Mrs. M. C. (Hove).—*Direct Fish Supplies:* It would be best to pay up in full. The idea of the company is sound, and it ought to do well. *Strand Hotel* shares are quite a good investment.——**J. V. T. (Jamaica).**—*French Prize Bonds:* Unless you can buy through a local banker you will have some difficulty in keeping in touch with the drawings. Cunliffe, Russell & Co., 10 Rue du 4 Septembre, Paris, however, will undertake the business for you.——**D. A. S. (Braco).**—Both the *Commercial Bank of Scotland* and the *North of Scotland* Bank are perfectly sound and reliable.——**W. E. W. (Kilburn).**—*De Beers Deferred:* I should not be surprised to see the price go still higher, but if there is a good profit I think your friend should take it, as the market is subject to violent fluctuations.——**J. A. T. (Kilwinning).**—*Birmingham Small Arms* 12-year notes, *John Wood & Bros.* participating preference shares and *Sudan Govt. "Sixes"* are all excellent investments. I rather like the *Chinese Govt. 8 per cent.* notes recently offered for sale by Vickers at 96 per cent., but they are more speculative.——**E. V. N. F. (Moreton-in-Marsh).**—*Robinson Deep:* The "A" shares have priority both as to dividends and capital and are less speculative than the "B," but the latter have reversionary interests. I do not advise the exchange.——**Pax (Kirkwall).**—*Asaham Rubbers* are a sound investment, and the immediate prospects are good. *Anglo-Persian Oils* have a great future, but I doubt if it would pay you to sell War Loan to buy them at the present price.——**Mrs. L. E. (Pennsylvania).**—*Monterey Railway & Light Debs.:* Unfortunately you can do nothing at present, unless you are prepared to sell at a big sacrifice—about 240 for £100 stock—and that would be a pity. Hold on if you possibly can.——**Ballymore (Armagh).**—Leave *United Rubber Products* alone: *Tempeh (Java)* have fair prospects round the present price of 8s. per share.——**D. P. E. (Llandovery).**—*Bristol Channel Steamers:* Better leave them alone; the shipping boom is not going to last for ever, and companies of this description will have a poor chance after a year or two.——**W. B. (Brixton).**—*Scottish Investment Trust:* You will have to sell either through a banker or a stockbroker. The present value is about £80.——**C. W. R. (Norwich).**—*Canadian Pacific:* Expenses are likely to rule high for a long time, and although it is an excellent investment, there is no certainty of a big rise in the near future.——**Fidget (Ramsgate).**—*Baldwins* preference shares are quite sound, and you need not worry. The price is about 19s. 6d.——**H. T. G. (Eglinton).**—*Baku Oil:* No one can say with any confidence what may happen in the next few years. There will be plenty of outlet for all the oil produced, but stores and other materials necessary for reconstruction and development will be prohibitive. The shares must be regarded as a gamble—nothing else.——**J. E. R. (Portsmouth).**—*Sizaire Berwick Motors:* May do well in a boom, but it is overcapitalised, and I would rather sell than hold. *Trust Houses* are doing good work of a semi-philanthropic character. Dividends are limited by the Articles of Association, but the business is perfectly genuine.——**J. H. C. (Ealing).**—*Foundation Shares Exch.:* I warned readers last week against this nest of wild-cats, located at 26, Brown Street, Manchester. Have nothing to do with them.——**Nail (Sheffield).**—*Cuba Battle Sugar:* Hold on; the company's prospects are excellent. Do not take any notice of the advice tendered by the firm mentioned.

(A considerable number of replies are held over for lack of space, but every endeavour is being made to answer them promptly by post.)

A Prospectus has been filed with the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies, which states, amongst other things, that no underwriting commission has been or will be paid on this issue. The Subscription List opened on the 2nd day of February, 1920, and closed on or before the 7th day of February, 1920.

SCALA (LEEDS), LIMITED.

(INCORPORATED UNDER THE COMPANIES ACTS, 1908-17.)

NOMINAL CAPITAL £150,000, Divided into 150,000 Ordinary Shares of £1 Each.

59,000 Ordinary Shares have been taken by the subscribers to the Memorandum of Association and their friends, and will be paid for in cash.

80,000 Ordinary Shares of £1 each are now offered for public subscription at par, payable:—On application, 2s. per share; on allotment, 4s.; two months after allotment, 4s.; four months after allotment, 5s.; six months after allotment, 5s.; making a total of £1.

Payment may be made in full on allotment, in which case dividend will accrue as from the date of payment. A dividend at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum, less tax, will be paid out of the first available profits earned by the Company on all cash subscribed for shares prior to the date of opening of the theatre up to such date.

DIRECTORS.—SOLOMON LEVY (Chairman), of 265, Hagley Road, Edgbaston, Cinematographer, Joint Managing Director of Scala (Newcastle), Ltd., Joint Managing Director of Scala (Middlesbrough), Ltd., Joint Managing Director of Scala (Birmingham), Ltd., Chairman of Scala (Liverpool), Ltd.; EVELEIGH BISHOP, of 44, Otley Road, and 63, Briggate, Leeds, General Fancy Dealer, Governing Director of Eveleigh Bishop, Ltd.; SAMPSON LUBELSKI, of 77, Chapeltown Rd., Leeds, Manufacturer, Director of Scala (Newcastle), Ltd., and Scala (Midland Counties), Ltd., Nuneaton, Director of Scala (Middlesbrough), Ltd.; ALFRED LEVY, of 3 Croxteth Grove, Sefton Park, Liverpool, Merchant, Chairman of Scala (Newcastle), Ltd., Joint Managing Director of Scala (Liverpool), Ltd., Managing Director of Claughton Picture House, Ltd., Chairman of Scala (Middlesbrough), Ltd., Director of Scala (Birmingham), Ltd.; MEYER AUBREY, of 21, Wellington Street East, Higher Broughton, Manchester, Merchant, Director of Scala (Birmingham), Ltd., and Scala (Newcastle), Ltd., Director of Hollinwood Cinema Company, Ltd.; and ROBERT GARSIDE EMSLEY, of Shaw House, Headingley, Leeds, Solicitor, Local Director of the Legal Insurance Company, Limited.

BANKERS.—LONDON JOINT CITY AND MIDLAND BANK, LTD., City Square, Leeds.

BROKERS.—TENNANT AND HIRST, Commercial Buildings, Leeds.

SOLICITORS.—EMSLEY AND SON, Atlas Chambers, Leeds.

AUDITOR.—CHARLES H. WILSON, 7, Greek Street, Leeds, Incorporated Accountant.

SECRETARY.—THOMAS ALAN FURER, 40, Bennetts Hill, Birmingham, Chartered Accountant.

ARCHITECTS.—ESSEX AND GOODMAN, Colmore House, Waterloo Street, Birmingham.

CONSULTING ENGINEERS.—MYERS-BESWICK AND PARTNERS, Park Square, Leeds.

REGISTERED OFFICE.—40, Bennetts Hill, Birmingham.

ABRIDGED PROSPECTUS.

The Company has been formed with the objects mentioned in the Memorandum of Association, and particularly in order to acquire certain freehold properties situate in Albion Place and Land's Lane, in the City of Leeds, for the purpose of erecting thereon a large high-class Picture Theatre with a sumptuous Café-Restaurant, Lounge, and all other necessary premises, and for operating the same. The Directors are of opinion the site is unique, being in the most central position in the very heart of the City and immediately surrounded by other most important places of entertainment. It is in close proximity to Briggate and Commercial Street, which are the two principal shopping streets of the City. Trams from all parts pass close to the entrance, and the site itself is admirably adapted to the erection of a picture theatre, being 142 ft. in length and over 78 ft. in width.

Leeds is known the world over for its variety of Industries, assuring at all times a stable state of prosperity, and in addition to its ever-increasing and vast popularity has become more than ever the busy metropolis of the whole of Yorkshire. It is the intention of the directors to erect, equip and furnish the building in such a manner that it will be unsurpassed for comfort and convenience by any other picture theatre in the country. Plans have been prepared by the Company's Architects and approved by the Local Authorities, and a copy may be inspected at the Offices of the Company's Solicitors at any time, by appointment, prior to the closing of the subscription list.

The Picture Theatre will consist of a ground floor readily accessible from Albion Place, Briggate, and together with the balcony seating, about 1,600 persons, which together with circulating areas and standing room will provide for about 2,300 persons. The balcony will be reached by means of a grand staircase and two electric lifts, which will also give access to the large café-restaurant above the theatre, which will seat 400 people. There will be eight easy exits from all parts, assuring rapid and commodious dispersal to the adjoining streets. The plans also provide for kitchen, scullories, larder, good office accommodation, heating and ventilation, and all other necessary adjuncts for the efficient operation of a first-class house of entertainment.

Prospectuses and Forms of Application may be obtained at the Offices of the Company, or from the Company's Bankers, Brokers, Solicitors, or Auditors.

LONDON JOINT CITY & MIDLAND BANK.

Mr. McKenna on Causes of High Prices.

The General Meeting of the London Joint City and Midland Bank, Limited, was held on January 29th at the Cannon Street Hotel, London, E.C.

The Right Hon. R. McKenna (Chairman), who presided, opened his speech by expressing the personal loss they had all sustained by the death of their late Chairman, and dwelt at length upon Sir Edward Holden's great qualities and the invaluable service rendered by him to their bank. He was sure it would be in accordance with the shareholders' wish that they should interrupt their proceedings, and before passing to the business of the day should express their feelings in a formal resolution. He therefore moved:—

"That this meeting desires to record their profound sense of personal and public loss in the death of Sir Edward Holden, and to convey to his sons, Sir Harry Cassie Holden and Major Norman E. Holden, and to the other members of his family, this expression of their deep sympathy."

The resolution was carried by the meeting standing in their places.

The Chairman then proceeded:—I am going to ask you to consider with me to-day a problem which has been much discussed in the Press and in Parliament. Nothing gives so much concern to the public at the present time as the great rise in prices. Masses of people find almost insuperable difficulty in bringing their expenditure within the limits of their income, and they clamour for a remedy. So far as I have seen, the most popular proposal for reducing prices is to fix a limit to the currency note issue. But is this issue really the cause of high prices? May it not be that the great increase in currency notes is itself only an effect of another cause, a mere link in the chain which ends in high prices?

Comparison of Figures.

In the first place, let us look at the estimated figures of currency, bank deposits, and prices of commodities, as they stand to-day compared with 1914. The total amount of currency in circulation held by the public in 1914, i.e., gold, silver, copper coin, and Bank notes, was £128,000,000. To-day the corresponding figure is estimated at £393,000,000, an increase of £265,000,000, or 207 per cent. The estimated amount of currency held by the banks in 1914 was £75,000,000, and in 1919 £191,000,000, an increase of £116,000,000, or 154 per cent. Before the war the total deposits of the banks of the United Kingdom (other than the Bank of England), including under the name deposits money held on current account as well as on deposit account, amounted to £1,070,000,000. The corresponding figure last month was about £2,300,000,000, an increase of £1,230,000,000, or 115 per cent.

The actual spending power of the public is gauged by the total amount of currency in circulation added to the total amount of bank deposits. In 1914 the public spending power was £1,198,000,000; to-day it is £2,693,000,000, an increase of £1,495,000,000, or 125 per cent.

I turn now to a comparison of the prices of commodities of everyday use or consumption in 1914 and at the present time. If we take 100 to represent the cost of living in 1914, the corresponding figure to-day would be about 225, or an increase of 125 per cent. The spending power of the public and the cost of living show the same percentage increases of 125.

Increased Deposits.

Bank deposits, the Chairman said, are derived from two sources and from two sources only. The first and most obvious source is by payments of currency into a bank. Anyone who takes notes out of his note-case and pays them into his bank creates a deposit. The second source from which deposits are derived could not be described with equal simplicity, but after a detailed analysis the chairman concluded that only bank loans or advances need be taken into account.

Let us look now at the increase of bank deposits since 1914 and see to what extent this increase is due respectively to payments in of additional currency and to bank loans. In June, 1914, the banks held £75,000,000 of currency. Last month this figure stood at £191,000,000. The banks, therefore, held more currency to the amount of £116,000,000, and to this extent the increase in the aggregate of of this amount are accounted for by payments in of currency. But it is estimated that since June, 1914, bank deposits have risen by £1,230,000,000. If £116,000,000 of this amount are accounted for by payments of currency into the banks, there remain £1,114,000,000 which, if the previous analysis be accepted as correct, we must attribute to bank loans.

Now that we have cleared so much ground, we must not forget the real object of our search. We are seeking the relation between the increase of bank deposits, the increase of currency, and high prices; and we have got so far as to see that bank loans are the main source of the growth of bank deposits. As an increase of deposits means an addition to our purchasing power, we should expect such an increase to be followed by a rise in prices. But we must guard ourselves here from a generalisation which may be too broad. If money is borrowed by manufacturers and traders for the purpose of the production or movement of commodities, the increase of purchasing power consequent upon the loans is followed in due course by an increase in the amount of commodities available, and the rise in prices which might be expected from a greater demand is corrected by a greater supply. Let us for a moment examine what takes place when a bank makes loans or advances in the ordinary way of trade. Suppose the case of a loan or advance to a manufacturer who uses the money to pay for raw material or wages, or some other expenses in the course of his business. When the goods are manufactured and sold to the merchant, it is expected that the proceeds of the sale will be used to pay off the bank loan. The merchant in his turn may have borrowed from his bank to pay the manufacturer, and they may be a whole series of loans from banks, each paid off in its turn as the goods pass from their primitive state of raw material to their final destination as finished goods in the hands of the consumer. But when the consumer has paid cash for the goods, all the series of loans will in the ordinary course be liquidated, and there will have been an increase in bank deposits only so long as the goods were not finally disposed of. In this view of bank transactions, loans by banks, and therefore deposits, would only increase in total amount as the total of commodities increased. There would be a greater purchasing power for the time being, but there would also be a greater supply in process of production.

First Steps to Cheaper Goods.

Let me now sum up the case so far as we have gone. We have seen that during the last six years bank deposits have increased by £1,230,000,000. Of this amount we find that payments of additional currency into the banks account for £116,000,000. We have seen that any other cause of an increase in deposits except bank loans is not large, and we have concluded that bank loans have been responsible for an increase of £1,100,000,000 in bank deposits. We have seen further that if these loans have been made to manufacturers and traders in the ordinary course of their business the increase in deposits, and consequently in purchasing power, would not of itself have caused a permanent rise in prices, as the additional deposits would have been followed by an additional supply of commodities. To whom, then, have these loans been made? It is impossible to give precise figures, but the best estimate I can form is that of the total of £1,100,000,000. £800,000,000, including Treasury Bills, have been lent to the State, and £300,000,000 to trade. The Government, under the overwhelming necessity of war effort, has been the great borrower from the banks. The loans to the State have led to an immense increase of deposits, and as they have remained outstanding long after the commodities they were raised to pay for have been consumed, they have been an inevitable cause of a rise in prices.

After analysing the three forms of Government borrowing—from the public, from the banks, and from the Bank of England—the Chairman said: Although, as I venture to think, the increase in currency is not the cause of high prices, yet I believe the public have shown a right instinct in fastening upon this increase as a matter for anxiety, and even alarm. Once the nation can free itself from the need for these advances, the rise in prices, so far as it is due to an increased demand, will cease, and the currency in circulation will no longer expand. When the advances are paid off prices will tend to go down, and the currency in circulation will diminish.

When we look to the future we naturally ask: Shall we ever get back to pre-war prices and pre-war currency and bank deposits? If I might hazard an opinion, it would be that prices will remain permanently on a far higher level than in 1914. The rise that has taken place is not local. It is not even European and American. It covers the whole world. The cost of living in Japan has risen quite as much as in this country. In India and China, where human wants are much less than with us and where custom plays a far stronger part in fixing prices, even there the cost of living is much above the pre-war standard. Increased production will bring down prices to a certain extent, but the purchasing power of the world measured in money cannot be materially diminished. Deflation is bound to be very slow. Any attempt, indeed, to bring it about rapidly would cause widespread ruin among manufacturers and traders.

Economy in Expenditure.

The only condition on which we shall be able to check the rise in prices is that our annual expenditure is brought within the compass of our revenue. In State as in domestic finance we must learn to make both ends meet, and the case is not in the least bettered if we only balance our accounts by selling out capital stock and placing the proceeds to the credit of our revenue account. The expenditure of the Government is tantamount to the consumption of the quantity of commodities which the money would buy, and thus must not exceed the amount of commodities the consumption of which the community are compelled to deny themselves by reason of the taxes they have to pay. If it does, we run the risk, as is indeed now the fact, that our consumption may exceed our production. This is not a plea for additional taxation. Far from it. Our existing taxation, which is, I believe, higher than in any other country in the world, is already dangerously near the point at which thrift, business enterprise and needful capital development have become seriously impaired. But it is a plea for economy in expenditure. It is a plea for such ruthless cutting down or postponement of all financial outlay by the State as will reduce our expenditure to a figure less than our tax revenue, for by this method alone can we hope to restrict the issue of currency, check the rise in prices, restore our foreign exchange, and re-establish London in her old position as the financial centre and free gold market of the world.

The report was adopted, and the proceedings terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

The EVEVING TELEGRAM—the only Sunday evening paper.

"John Bull's" Letter Bag.

[The EDITOR replies to, and chats with, some of his numerous correspondents.]

CORRESPONDENTS ARE REQUESTED NOT TO SEND ORIGINAL CERTIFICATES, TESTIMONIALS, INSURANCE POLICIES, ETC., *as they are liable to be mislaid. Copies only should be forwarded in the first instance.*

LETTERS *must be addressed to the Editor or Publishers, 93, Long Acre, W.C. 2, according to whether they relate to Editorial or Publishing matters.* FINANCIAL, INSURANCE, *or* LEGAL *enquiries should be addressed to the Financial, Insurance, or Legal Editor, and must each be accompanied by a postal order for one shilling. No fee is charged in respect of other enquiries. Full names and addresses should be given.*

"A WORKER" (Co. Down).—"If the workers of Britain were spoken to in a fair-minded way, all these labour troubles would soon melt away." We do it every week, and we trust they are melting.

"CITIZEN" (Crumpsall).—"Which have we chosen—laziness of body or laziness of mind?" So far as we are concerned, neither. Sometimes only wish we had the chance.

MRS. A. M. G. (Sydenham).—"You must be a little bit tired of reading letters of appreciation from your numerous readers." Yes, but it would be awful if we got none at all.

"PEACE" (London).—"Seeing Mr. Churchill wants wars and is trying to make more wars, let him leave his office for a man who does not want wars, but peace." But sometimes wars are necessary to secure peace.

"BOB B." (Luton).—"I am anxious to be trained for a boxer, and should be glad to know what to do to enter your plan." Write to Mr. A. G. Hales, care of this office, and tell him what you can do—and what you have done.

J. M. B. (Hawick).—You must be very comfortably off yourself if you imagine that every man, woman and child in the British Isles could raise 5s. per week to help pay off our debt to the U.S.A. We shouldn't care for the job of collecting it in Ireland.

N. F. (Glasgow).—Very sweet of you to express the hope that Mr. Charles Palmer may soon be "beside us in the House of Commons in our hours of trial." You must wait—till the 20th—and see.

MRS. M. (Lower Cambridge Street).—"May you long be spared to fight for Tommy." It is our own earnest prayer.

J. Z. (Hedon).—Burton (in the *Anatomy of Melancholy*) agrees with you that one religion is as true as another.

W. H. B. (Ascot).—"Premium Bonds for me with *my* 'Fishers.'" And for ours—when they come.

V. C. H. T. (Liverpool).—"Apparently public sympathy is with the offspring of erring couples." And quite right too. Innocent, yet unwanted, and branded with the stigma of bastardy, they make an even stronger appeal to human sentiment than the legitimate orphan, who at least has a name.

M. M. (Kilkenny).—Sorry; our "precious time" too much used up to discuss the Irish question again just at present.

N.A.U.L.A.W. (Ferndale Branch).—"Heartiest thanks for support of 'Pearl' agents." Thanks.

H. S. L. (London, S.W.).—Obliged for note, but why on blue foolscap? Are you a retired minion of the law?

H. P. M. (Croydon).—Thanks, but we prefer to rely on our own ideas of a "wholesome Peace conception," which you will find developed weekly in these pages.

A. K. LE M. (Upper Norwood).—"On my honour I have given my weekly JOHN BULL for two years, after reading same, to a friend who cannot afford to buy it." You are hereby recommended for the D.C.M. with six bars.

"VICTIM" (Olympia).—It is quite true that we are "fond of righting injustice," and if you can prove that you have "had your lights cut off" we will certainly make a row about it.

"ALDERSHOT."—Thanks for description of "mean, dirty trick." If necessary, perhaps you could illustrate it with a diagram.

MISS B. S. (Edinburgh).—"I really am very sweet tempered." And after reading your letter, we really believe you.

G. C. (Adelaide).—Don't believe all the English news you read in Australian newspapers. "Our London Correspondent" covers a multitude of exaggerations and inaccuracies.

A. F. W. (Frome).—Thanks for letter. You are as polite as a de-controlled butcher.

"A CLOSE READER" (Dublin).—So we printed "mention" with an "s" instead of a "t;" did we? For pointing this out, you "claim the due reward—if any." The due reward will be administered to the offender with the office scourge. And you don't want any of that, do you?

"PRO-SANTA CLAUS" (Sunderland).—Aren't your little lessons about Christmas cards late for last season, and too early for next? Turn your thoughts to Easter, do.

C. H. (Worcester).—If a dentist got you into his chair and let you out of it for half-a-crown, we should not call it profiteering, but a missed opportunity.

C. F. (Edinburgh).—Neither Mr. M'Nally nor any other Mac is justified in occupying a position under the Ministry of Labour and at the same time draw a salary from the School Board, while so many educated ex-Service men are unemployed.

W. C. B. (Finchley).—"On the last day of training (in the M.E.T., Ltd., Manor House, N.) I was sacked owing to reduction of staff." Leave it to your trade union.

W. H. M. (Plymouth).—If you desire the benefit of our advertising columns for your purpose they are at your disposal. The Advertisement Manager is a most accommodating man.

G. D. (Newcastle-on-Tyne).—The Socialist lecture lately delivered at the Royal Arcade, and so delicately entitled "Bloody Baboonery and Winston Churchill," was no doubt entertaining. The Socialist lecturer doubtless contributed the—er—the baboonery, to the manner born.

"OLD READER" (Tipton).—"They commence work at 8 a.m., but if anyone clocks in 1 min. past 8 he loses half an hour." From this you should learn the advantages and disadvantages of punctuality.

"TOILER" (Wiltshire).—"Now that the Old Age Pensions are increased to 10s. at last, let us strive to reduce the age to 60." Let us first get that indemnity from Germany.

A. A. P.-J. (Witham).—Cannot say whether feminine shorthand-typists are being "turned down" by commercial firms unless they know German. It is not improbable, here and there. However, if proficient in the "twin arts" they can soon get good jobs.

"INVENTOR" (Shorthands).—"I am just filling up a few idle moments." As well as a few sheets of Midland Hotel notepaper, we notice. Your anti-burglar device for banks and post-offices would not, in our opinion, be so effective as the use of the cat-o'-nine-tails.

T. J. M. (Liverpool).—The lady old-age pensioner who gets about on two sticks is probably a dear old soul, but the P.O. is somewhat obtuse in employing her as telegraph messenger.

"ARMY OFFICER" (Norwich).—We note that you are "Scotch by origin." Not simply by absorption, eh?

J. B. (Billericay).—It certainly seems incongruous that a subscription from a German should be accepted towards a British war memorial. But what does the Jewish proverb say about "a bristle from a pig's nose"?

G. E. M. (Stockton-on-Tees).—"During the war the Government asked us to increase the population." True—although, personally, in such a private matter we should be inclined to use our own judgment.

A. L. (Birmingham).—We note that you have just emerged from "a riot of thought." Looks to us as though a couple of your brain cells had become detached.

H. W. F. (Durham).—"Girls on the Post walking about on the rounds arm in arm with a young man." Shocking! When they are busy with the mails they should have no thought for the males.

"BOYS" (*Arethusa*).—Your letter to hand, and contents noted—but if, as you say, things are improving, perhaps we had better leave it at that.

J. H. (St. Helens).—The "Empire Toy Bag, Best Value in England," is certainly a bit of a take-in when one finds contents "Printed in Germany." Looks like new stuff, too.

D. H. J. (Bargoed).—If the parishioners of Gelligaer elect a notorious Conscientious Objector to fill the vacancy on the Glamorgan County Council, instead of an upright citizen who had the manliness to fight for his country, it would be as well to wipe Gelligaer off the map.

G. MAC (Hinckley).—Much more could be done if everybody would constitute himself his own cruelty-to-animals inspector, and report to the police.

"X. Y. Z." (Bedford).—"Give the Bedford Labour Exchange a jolt. It sometimes appears to be run as a club for the staff." If it is true men on donation wait for hours and are then told to return later, there is certainly serious cause for a kick.

W. J. F. (Edmonton).—"I have in my mind an excellent idea for a system of rafts which would be less costly and more efficacious than lifeboats (on board ships)." Your idea doesn't seem about a bit new. Rafts aboard ship have often been installed.

"ALLOTMENT HOLDER" (Handsworth).—We are inclined to share your contempt for the so-called "expert gardener" who when giving evidence in a case of alleged profiteering admitted that he could not say whether the article that all the row was about was a cabbage or a brussels top. No doubt it is equally difficult to distinguish his head from a turnip.

"EX-TOMMY" (Holloway).—"Cloak-room attendant required; 47½ hours weekly. Wages 28s." Plaistow and Co., Ltd., Wharfdale Road, King's Cross, doubtless think this is a job for heroes.

G. H. (Ash Green).—"Having noticed many irregularities, they began to get on my nerves." As you state them they get on ours.

"CONSTANT READER" (Notts).—"Would the Pussyfooters guarantee employment to all the workers displaced by Prohibition?" The answer is in the negative.

F. W. R. (Grimsby).—"Is it correct for Lady Ramsey still to use the name of Princess Pat when attending any function?" If she pleases. But does she?

"SCOT" (Leith).—Gang awa', laddie.

"A VOLUNTARY HELPER."—"It is only common civility to say Thank you." But the voluntary helpers at the Brighton Centre of the Waac Medical Board have not received a word of appreciation? Well, we will be uncommonly civil, and say: Thank you very much indeed.

MRS. W. O. (Essex).—It is good to know of the "spark of happiness" we kept alight for you during your days of black anxiety. Bet it's a bonfire by now.

F. T. (Upton Manor).—Afraid cannot undertake to "expose everybody who does an unkind act," although in an exceptional case we can generally hand out the mustard.

"REGULAR READER" (London, W.C.).—Agreed that burglary is rough on "prospective mothers"—apt, also, to be extremely disturbing to putative fathers.

H. H. (Bath).—We are not sure that "patience" is the only card game that ever grows monotonous. And what about the policemen who were caught "napping"?

G. (Salisbury).—Your idea of a "Limerick" is about as luminous as a bag of soot on a dark night.

(Continued on page 21.)

HOW TO ECONOMISE!

A Simple Sum.

The "John Bull" Pen (STANDARD MODEL) . . . worth **10/6**

Our Price (with 7 Coupons) **2/3**

You Save . . . **8/3**

"JOHN BULL" Pen Coupon, Value 2d.

By sending this Coupon with P.O. for 2/3, and 1½d. stamps for postage, the holder is entitled to receive a "John Bull" Gold Nibbed Fountain Pen, STANDARD MODEL. Additional Coupons up to 6 from "John Bull" from this date may be saved and used in part payment, each counting as 2d. off the price. Thus you may send 7 coupons and P.O. for 2/3 only, and 1½d. stamps for postage.

DE LUXE MODEL, 1/3 Extra.

Address, Pen Dept., JOHN BULL, Long Acre, London, W.C.2. *(Feb. 7, 1920).*

P.O.s should be made payable to John Bull, Ltd., and crossed & Co.

N.B.—State whether you prefer a Fine, Medium, or Broad Nib.

Letter Bag—*Continued.*

W. S. L. (Elland).—Haven't the faintest notion which is the better tram-car service of the two—Leeds or Manchester. Most tram services are sufficiently horrible.

R. N. W. (Malton).—Glad to hear that the Registrar-General has put the kybosh on the proposal to appoint a young lady as Registrar for the sub-district of Bulmer. We believe there are one or two discharged soldiers, still unemployed, who could do with the job.

F. P. (Bampton).—Sweet of you to send us a little lecture on political economy. "Produce more coal" is what you mean, but you took many more words to say it.

"A VICTIM" (Sunderland).—It's a queer yarn about police arresting bookies through hiding on premises without permission and without loan of a key to secure entrance. Do they utilise the window—or the chimney?

"A SYMPATHISER" (Wisbech).—A man, driving without lights, asked a policeman the way. He was directed—and then got a summons. You should never ask a policeman anything except the time.

"EX-RANKER" (Liverpool).—It is satisfactory to know that the Mersey Docks and Harbour Board "have not refused to reinstate any of their employees who joined up," but even that does not justify them in employing so large a proportion of women while ex-Servicemen tramp the streets looking for jobs.

G. H. G. (Reading).—"A discharged soldier had to take his boots off to receive treatment for his arm." No harm in that; thousands have had to put their tongues out when the pain was in their stomach.

"HARRY" (London).—"Can you tell me a way to stop growing? I am sick of my chums calling me long-legged Harry." Yes. Live a few years longer.

W. C. (St. Dunstan's) suggests that a rope ladder should be fixed on every London bridge "so that would-be rescuers should not have to make a fatal dive." But one ladder wouldn't be enough.

P. R. T. (St. Anne's).—Solomon said that "the wealth of the sinner is laid up for the just," but we don't believe him.

M. W. (New Barnet) wants to know what we think of the presentation of "an elegant gold cigarette case" to the matron of the New Barnet Day Nursery. We think she has deserved it.

J. C. (Mon.).—During past years we printed many warnings against Robey's, of Coventry, and their gramophone business. Sorry you have trouble with the people, but why, oh why, do you send money away to advertisers unknown to you?

M. T. H. (London).—A table fetched four guineas at auction. A fat dealer sat on it, broke off two of its legs, and it was sold again for £2 17s. 6d. Our judgment is that the fat dealer must find the difference.

"EX-WAAC" (Swindon). — Why don't you girls go back to your pre-war situations? Discharged Tommies don't want to do you out of your jobs. They only want their own back.

J. J. (Holloway).—Yours is certainly a hard case, but the Judge was right in principle in declaring that he "could not turn one tenant out to let another in."

"ERNEST" (Coomassie).—The State income of the Royal Household consists of certain annuities voted by Parliament at the outset of each reign, and at present amounting in the aggregate to £470,000 per annum.

M. H. (Ladbroke Road).—Bought a purse for 8s. 6d., found it marked 4s. 6d., the Profiteering Committee valued it at 5s. 10½d., so you got no redress? Many wise women nowadays don't buy purses. They tuck their money into their stocking, whence it can't be snatched.

"A READER" ("Auld Reekie").—"I do hope you are keeping the Deceased Husband Brother Bill in front." You are a bit behind about Brother Bill, for we have promised to stick to it, and shall do so.

Mrs. W. (Sutton-in-Craven).—"I feel I must take some kind of work, but cannot find any suitable, as I am middle-aged and my hair grey, which puts on the stopper at once." Should have thought those two facts would have helped to a berth as housekeeper, or something similar.

Miss E. B. (Netherfield).—We have repeatedly drawn attention to the shabby treatment handed out to their canteen assistants by the N.A.C.B. Being a Board, it has no soul to be damned nor body to be kicked, so redress is almost unobtainable.

S. M. P. (Acton, W.).—In these days of spiritualistic manifestations there seems no reason why we should not address a Candid Communication to a man who has the misfortune to be dead.

A. C. (Conway).—"I have myself now made up a Limerick with a last line to be added to it, and I will send it to you if you will say your terms for it." Untold gold.

Miss R. B. (Brighton).—You are at liberty to believe in the Rev. Askwith's prophecy of the imminence of the Second Coming, but you must permit us to say that that gentleman could be better employed than in preaching dogmatic sermons about what "no one knoweth."

C. D. G. (Surbiton).—We deeply sympathise with your natural feelings at having to relinquish your British nationality, on marriage with an American citizen, but are afraid we can hold out no hope of an early amendment of the law.

"CATSFEET" (Dartford).—"Pussyfoot reckons on making England dry in 1925. Can you let me know if there is any truth in this statement?" You and the rest of the people can easily make it one big lie.

"JOHN BULLITE."—They serve you in your tea-shop with crockery made in Germany. Your comment is, "They might send up the stuff on respectable British earthenware. Don't you think so, old chap?" Your familiarity is rather overwhelming, but does not prevent us from endorsing your sentiments.

'EX-OFFICER" (Paisley).—"Lang may your lum reek." No doubt you mean well, but it sounds rather rude. Now if you had written from the constituency in which we are more concerned!

W. R. F. (Deptford).—"Why should a man pay Income Tax on £8 a week when it is only worth 25s?" Because they need the money and mean to get it. All the same, your argument is a good one.

(Many replies are unavoidably held over.)

Keen to Shave you—

'GEM'

The famous 5/- Safety Razor

Complete with seven 'GEM' Damaskeene Blades and stropping attachment.

Extra 'GEM' Damaskeene Blades in sealed packets 7 for 2/-

The favourite razor of millions of men for over a quarter of a century.

The GEM SAFETY RAZOR CO., LTD., 134, Great Portland Street, London, W. 1.

BRITISH-AMERICAN TOBACCO.

The 17th annual meeting of the British-American Tobacco Company, Limited, was held, on January 27th, at the Central Hall, Westminster, under the presidency of Mr. Joseph Hood, M.P., one of the deputy chairmen.

The Chairman said:—When we had the pleasure of meeting the shareholders a year ago, shortly after the conclusion of the Armistice, I said that the demobilisation of the troops was being actively carried out, which meant that our supplies to them would materially diminish and we should have to endeavour to resume, to the best of our ability, the normal relations of export trade and extend our sales to make up the loss of supplies to the troops abroad, in which our English factories had been largely engaged. That has been done, and whilst the volume of our output from England is less, yet for the whole of our factories and those of our associated companies the output for the first two months of our new financial year (October and November) exceeds that for the corresponding two months, viz., October and November, 1918. Business has during the year been more normal, as restrictions have been removed. I referred last year to the fact that our employees who had survived the war were returning to us, and I especially mentioned the large number of awards which had been made to them. Out of about 3,400 men who left to join the Forces from the head office, the depôts abroad and the associated companies, one in every fifteen has received an award, whilst the percentage of the head office staff is one in eight, a very creditable record, including as it does 9 Military Crosses out of 33 decorations, and a total enlistment of 265.

I am glad to say that the Canadian Government and the Ministry of Pensions have recently given up possession of the five floors of the offices they occupied at Westminster House, and we are resuming active occupation of those premises. We have not only taken back our staff and employees who have returned from the war, but have been able to find places for a number of other returned men who had not previously been employed by us.

Balance Sheet.

It is usual at our annual meeting to go through the various items in the Balance Sheet, and make such comments as appear necessary.

Taking the assets side of the Balance Sheet first, you will observe that the item real estate and buildings at cost, less provision for amortisation of leaseholds £475,447 19s. 6d., shows a decrease of £199,366 5s. 6d. The explanation of the substantial reduction is due to the fact that during the year we sold our Bristol factories to the Imperial Tobacco Company and, in addition, sold certain property we had in China to a subsidiary company which we have registered in China under the Hong Kong Ordinances called British-American Tobacco Company (China), Ltd. We came to the decision to concentrate our English factories at Liverpool and Southampton. You will recollect that at Liverpool we have probably the most modern bonded tobacco factory in existence. I may also say in that connection that we are considering sites for the erection of an addional factory in this country at a convenient centre.

With regard to the sale of our property in China, I may explain that we came to the conclusion that it would be desirable to form a company in China under the Hong Kong Ordinance for the purpose not only of carrying on our distributing business there, but also to hold the shares in the manufacturing companies in China. Those companies own factories in Shanghai, Hankow, Moukden, and Harbin, where very large quantities of cigarettes are manufactured.

Plant, machinery, furniture, and fittings at cost or under, £460,353 12s. 6d., show a decrease of £31,321, and is accounted for on the one hand by the sale of plant and machinery at Bristol, and the reduction of plant and machinery at Norfolk, Virginia, and, on the other hand, by the purchase of plant and machinery for a new factory we have taken over in New York.

Goodwill.

Goodwill, trade marks, and patents also show a substantial decrease from £879,064 to £505,000, a reduction of nearly £374,000. This reduction is accounted for by the nominal amount standing in our books as representing the goodwill attributable to China, although it by no means represents the value of that goodwill; nor, in fact, does it represent anything like the amount we have received in shares in payment for the agreement entered into with the China company for the supply of manufactured goods on certain terms and covenants entered into. On the other hand we have only taken credit in the item of investments in associated companies for the amount written off this item and not for the nominal value of the shares received. Incidentally, I may say that it might be a convenient opportunity next year to consider whether the remainder of the item of goodwill should not be written off entirely.

Loans to the current accounts with associated companies, £6,067,524, shows an increase of £789,611, and is due particularly to increased supplies to the associated companies and additional advances made to them, substantially in consequence of the increased cost of leaf tobacco and other materials.

Investments in associated companies, £8,691,699, which is the largest item on the assets side, shows a very substantial increase of £3,436,063, due in a small degree to some investments in companies, but principally to the change of the form of investments in China. Those investments, such as real estate, stocks, debts, and other assets in China, now form part of this item.

Other investments, £154,109, show an increase of £47,053, and is explained by an investment of War Stock.

Stocks of leaf, manufactured goods, and materials at cost or under, 8,197,493, shows a reduction of £456,548. This is principally accounted for by a reduction in stocks at depôts.

Sundry debtors (less provision for doubtful debts) and debit balances show a reduction of £456,182 and stand at £2,772,714, principally due to the taking over by the China company of debts in China as previously mentioned.

The last item on the assets side, cash at bankers and in transit, £4,136,974, is increased by the considerable sum of £1,972,672. As you will remember, we issued in August last new Ordinary shares which considerably increased our cash holdings just before the completion of our financial year.

Liabilities.

Turning to the liability side of the Balance Sheet, while the issued capital of £4,500,000 Preference Shares remains the same, the issue of Ordinary shares is increased from £6,254,320 to £8,501,911. Of this amount, £141,000 was in respect of the issue of shares to Directors and the President of the Export Leaf Tobacco Company, and £2,106,591 from Ordinary shareholders generally for new Ordinary shares. We have consented to receive and have received some belated acceptances since the 30th September last from Executors and others, which has to a small extent further increased the Ordinary Capital since.

The item of Creditors and Credit Balances is increased by £700,303 to £9,918,597, and is due to increased amounts owing for supplies.

Reserves for Buildings, Machinery, and Materials, £542,882, is up by £110,464, due to the ordinary provisions, and, of course, as I have pointed out on previous occasions, strengthens the Balance Sheet.

Premium on Ordinary shares issued, £367,664, shows an increase of £141,000, being the amount of the premium paid by certain Directors on the issue to them of shares at £2 per share, to which I have previously referred.

Provision for the redemption of coupons, £60,716, shows a small reduction of £2,471.

Special Reserve, £1,156,987, shows a small reduction of £750, due to the loss on the sale of some War Stock we held.

General Reserve, £1,500,000, to provide against possible losses arising from the war subject to Excess Profits Duty upon any sums which may be recovered stands at the same figure as last year. You will remember that with the consent of the Government we sold, shortly after the war commenced, our shares in German Companies and loans to those Companies and officials connected with them. Approximately, one-third of the amount payable to us by the Deutsche Bank, the ultimate purchaser in respect of those sales, became payable in marks in July of last year, and the balance which is payable in sterling became payable on the 10th instant, subject to the provision that payment should not be made until after the ratifications of the Peace Treaty had been exchanged, which, curiously enough, was carried out on that day. The remittance was, I understand, also subject to sanction being given by the Government.

Deutsche Bank's Debt.

During the war, we, in common with certain other Companies who had sold their businesses in Germany with the consent of the Government during hostilities, made representations to our Government that it should be a term of the Peace Treaty that any amounts owing to creditors in this country in respect of those sales should be settled through any Clearing Office which would be established after the war for the settlement of claims by and against the respective nationals. That suggestion has, however, not been carried out, although debts incurred prior to the war are to be the subject of settlement through the Clearing Office. The attitude of the Government is that payment for any sales of businesses which took place after the war should be made direct between the respective debtors and creditors, and therefore we have to look to the Deutsche Bank to pay us direct. Up to the present we have not received payment of either the marks debt or the sterling debt, but I think it is obvious that with the present very heavily depreciated rate of German exchange, the debt of between eight and nine million marks instead of being worth in sterling between four and five hundred thousand pounds is worth at to-day's exchange less than £40,000. The debt of about a million pounds is, of course, payable in sterling.

It is, perhaps, unfortunate not only from the point of view of British creditors, but also from the point of view of the Government, that provision was not made for a settlement of these obligations through the Clearing Office, and whilst some portion of the loss must necessarily fall upon ourselves and the other British Companies to whom these debts are owing, yet the larger portion of it falls upon the Revenue in cases where Companies are liable to Excess Profits Duty, because the loss incurred by the Company can be set off as to a considerable part against that liability.

You will, therefore, understand that until a settlement is definitely arrived at and we know how much money we actually get from these debts, we are unable to say how much of this reserve of £1,500,000 will have to be written off

There remains the item of profit and loss account balance of £4,912,733, which shows an increase of £1,531,896. The net profits for the year amount to £3,776,507 after making provision for excess profits duty for the year as compared with £3,140,174 for the year ended 30th September, 1918.

The increase shows the substantial progress which has been made by the Company during the past year. Of course, it is only fair to point out that the rate of Excess Profits Duty for the period under review was considerably less than in the previous year, and therefore to that extent we benefited.

The available balance standing to the credit is now £4,912,733, out of which the Directors recommend a distribution to-day of a final dividend (free of British Income-tax) upon the Ordinary shares of 6 per cent., amounting to £512,421 19s. 2d. This payment will make 30 per cent. for the year upon the Ordinary shares which were in existence a year ago, and upon the balance it will make 12 per cent., so far as the greater part is concerned, but upon some small number of shares which have been issued since the end of September, due to belated acceptances, will, of course, only mean that the present final dividend is paid.

The amount to be carried forward will be the substantial sum of £4,400,311 12s. 11d.

The Directors think that it would be unwise until the question of the settlement of the claims in respect of German assets is disposed of to make any recommendations as to the disposition of any part of this surplus, even if that course is considered desirable, but I may say that it is one which has received the consideration of the board, and, of course, there is the further point that it is quite clear that with the increased cost of leaf and all other materials, the employment of substantial further sums in the business of the Company is absolutely necessary.

As I indicated at last year's meeting, the Directors in coming to any conclusion must be guided by the knowledge as to whether the higher cost of leaf and materials is substantially maintained or not. That increase has been maintained and in many cases exceeded, making it necessary to employ a constantly increasing capital.

I now formally beg to move the adoption of the Report and Balance Sheet for the year ended 30th September, 1919, including the payment to-day of a final dividend of 6 per cent. upon the issued Ordinary shares, free of British Income-tax. I may mention that the Directors have declared for the year 1919-1920 an interim dividend of 6 per cent., free of British Income-tax, also payable to-day, so that you will receive 12 per cent.

Mr. L. Hignett seconded the motion, and it was carried. The formal business was duly transacted.

The NATIONAL NEWS takes national views—every Sunday.

BRITISH GLASS INDUSTRIES, LIMITED.

An Extraordinary General Meeting of the Company was held at Winchester House, E.C., on January 28th, 1920.

Mr. C. WILLIAMSON MILNE, the Chairman, said: Ladies and Gentlemen,—This meeting has been called for the purpose of considering, and, if approved, passing the resolution of which you have received notice. As you may have noticed, while I have become the Chairman of the Company, we have elected Mr. Clarence C. Hatry, whose name will ever be associated with this great undertaking, to the position of President. To look after properly the varied interests of this great combine now entails such an immense amount of work that it has become necessary to apportion it. For this reason we asked Mr. Hatry to accept the position of the president of our Company, and he will occupy a similar position with United Glass Bottle Manufacturers, Limited, succeeding Mr. Dixon Nuttall in that position. He will in this capacity be able to exercise a controlling influence over the financial policy of the whole combination of our interests, while the ordinary duties of the Chairman will devolve upon me. I am sure that shareholders will approve of this appointment. When I last addressed you I told you how greatly we were indebted to the energy and ability of Mr. Hatry for the satisfactory position in which we then found ourselves. Well, as I shall be able to show you in the course of a few minutes, our position is now immeasurably improved both in regard to immediate revenue and ultimate prospects, and for that it is impossible to over-estimate our indebtedness to Mr. Hatry for his devotion to our interests. I know that the work itself, or, rather, the result of the work, has been sufficient recompense to Mr. Hatry for the time and thought he has given to this business, for I know that from the start it was his ambition and determination to re-establish the glass industry in Great Britain, and to build it up into a position strong enough not only to resist the competition which in course of time is bound to come again from continental countries, but also to enable it to compete in the markets of the world with all possible rivals. You will have noticed that our Board has been strengthened by the addition of Baron Henri de Rothschild, Sir Francis Towle and Mr. George Alexander; Mr. Alexander is one of the Directors of United Glass Bottle Manufacturers, Limited. I would take this opportunity of saying in public that we welcome Mr. Alexander's accession to our Board, and we feel sure his able advice and assistance will be invaluable not only to us, but also to the greater interests which we now control. The two primary reasons which have influenced us in deciding to increase our capital to £2,000,000 are, firstly, by the acquisition of the businesses referred to in our circular—the details of which I will give you directly—we shall secure for our Company a very large immediate increase of production, and thereby—a consideration which will appeal to shareholders—a large immediate increase of revenue. Secondly, we shall still further widen the basis of our undertaking, and by thus enlarging the scope of our operations in the various branches of glass production, will go far towards carrying out our programme of establishing this Company, British Glass Industries, Limited, in the predominant position—not only in the British Empire, but in the world—for the manufacture of nearly all and every kind of glass. As I told you when I last addressed you, our business was then largely devoted to the establishment in this country of the industry of making glass jars and bottles, an industry which hitherto had been almost entirely in the hands of continental countries, and to that, as you know, out of our last increase of capital we added a very large interest in the manufacture of sheet or window glass through our holding in the British Window Glass Company, Limited, the shares of which we could readily sell at a substantial premium. As you will have seen from the circular which is in your hands, the new interests which we have acquired are so many and so various that I find it difficult to say which, if any, individual item will be of the greatest value to our undertaking, but perhaps the agreement marked "A" on the circular, covering the purchase of the controlling interest in the ordinary shares in United Glass Bottle Manufacturers, Limited, is the most important and far-reaching of all. This concern, which owns the entire share capital of the following Companies, viz., Cannington, Shaw and Company, Limited, St. Helens; Nuttall and Company, Limited, St. Helens; Robert Candlish and Son, Limited, Seaham; Alfred Alexander and Company, Limited, Hunslet, Leeds; Aire and Caulder Glass Bottle Works (E. Breffit and Company, Limited), Castleford; Moore Nettlefold Company, Limited, Woolwich, was, apart from our own undertaking, the largest combination of jar and bottle manufacturers in the United Kingdom, and the fusion of the two conflicting interests into one strengthens our position in a way which will be so obvious to all of you that it is unnecessary for me to enlarge upon it. In addition to the ownership of the six old-established businesses which I have just enumerated, this Company has purchased thirty acres of ground at Charlton, near Woolwich, and is now erecting thereon gigantic new works second only in size to our own works at Canning Town. Every kind of the latest useful automatic machinery is being installed, and the efficiency of the factory will equal that of any bottle-making works in the United States. Through the agreement "marked "B" in the circular we have agreed to purchase the major portion of the share capital of Webb's Crystal Glass Company, Limited, which gives us a controlling interest in the following businesses, viz.:—

Thomas Webb and Son, Limited (Established 1837), Dennis Glass Works, Stourbridge.
Edinburgh and Leith Flint Glass Company (Established 1863), Edinburgh.
Corbett and Company, Limited (Established 1911), Tutbury, Staffordshire.
Medway Glass Works, Limited, Queenborough, Kent. (A large modern factory now being erected.)
Robert Johnston Lamp-Blown Glassware and Accessories Company, Limited, London.
R. Johnston and Company, Limited (Established 1860), London,

and a substantial or a controlling share interest in the following:—

Samuel Pearson (West Bromwich), Limited.
E.M. Patents, Limited, London, and Phillips, Limited, London.

This latter acquisition enables us to install and use on favourable terms the semi-automatic machine known as the Empire Machine. This may not convey very much to my hearers, but those in the trade will realise the inestimable value which this purchase will be to our other works. These machines have been working very successfully at the Tutbury Works for over a year, and produce a better class of blown tumbler than has ever been made on the continent. With these machines and the modern type of American Tank Furnace now being installed at the Medway Works, we shall be in a unique position for turning out enormous quantities of these goods, in addition to electric lamp bulbs and other articles which hitherto have been outside the scope of our operations. Thomas Webb and Sons were established as makers of Crystal Table Glass as far back as 1837, and have always held a leading position in that trade. In 1917 they commenced the manufacture of electric lamp bulbs and tubing, and so rapid has been the growth of this new branch that last year upwards of 5,500,000 bulbs and 80 tons of tubing were manufactured and sold. We look to increase this considerably by the installation of automatic machines and additional furnaces. I now come to the important question of profits, both present and prospective. As regards the latter, I prefer to name no figures. I have endeavoured to give you an accurate picture of our properties and of our programme, and you can each and all of you form your own ideas as to the probable results, I am content, speaking not only for myself, but for my colleagues, to paraphrase Dr. Samuel Johnson's statement, and to say:—

> "We have here no mere collection of factories and furnaces, but the potentialities of wealth beyond the dream of avarice."

In dealing with profits, I shall confine myself to present conditions and to our present comparatively restricted output, and on this basis our earnings should suffice to pay and maintain substantial dividends not only on our present capital, but on the market capitalisation, including the new issue. In estimating our future additional profits, you must bear in mind—firstly—the results of our expenditure on our works at Canning Town—the largest glass works ever contemplated. These works are now approaching completion, and but for the moulders strike a considerably larger portion would have already been in operation than is at present the case.

Secondly, the factory now being erected at Charlton by the United Glass Bottle Manufacturers, Limited, which is second in size to our own works only. Thirdly, the doubling of our works at Queensborough, and the commencement of operations by British Window Glass, Limited. Fourthly, the additional profits to be derived from the installation of improved automatic machinery in the majority of the old-established businesses referred to under the heading of B in our circular. There are other minor sources of additional profit which are already in sight, and which I need not particularise, but I may perhaps mention that negotiations have been concluded for the sale of our foreign patents, and this source alone should bring us in a very large sum in capital, royalties, or dividends. As regards the payment of a dividend, at the present time the accounts of all these different companies which form our combination are made up at so many different dates that it will take us some little time to regularise them and bring them all into line, so I will merely content myself with saying that we shall certainly be able to pay a dividend which will be satisfactory to every shareholder within the present calendar year. Further, I should like to point out to you that apart from the direct additional profit obtainable from each branch of manufacture added to British Glass Industries, Limited, that company will gain largely by the co-ordination and co-operation under one direction of so many highly skilled experts in the different branches of the glass trade. And now I wish to say a few words which really are not addressed so much to you shareholders as to the Press, and through them to the general public. It is no hyperbole to say that this great combination which we have built up is a national undertaking. And, as such, while the interests of our customers and shareholders must always be out first consideration, we have also to bear in mind the interests of the nation. We claim to have deserved well of the British public in having re-established the business of glass-making in this country in so impregnable a position, and it is necessary that we should always carry their good opinion with us. I therefore wish to point out most emphatically that this combination which we have built up is not a Trust in the ordinary sense of the word, *i.e.*, a Trust established to eliminate competition, with a view to raising prices. The assured profits of this great combination are already sufficiently large to satisfy the most exacting, and so far from wishing to raise prices we are convinced that the more we are able to lower them, the greater the advantages to the customers and the shareholders will be. Glassware is used in nearly every trade, and there is hardly an industry in this country which is not being hampered for the want of it. There can be no question that it is of great benefit to the country that the enormous supplies of glassware which are wanted in every factory, in every shop and every home, should now, for the first time, be produced by British labour and British capital. Therefore, at the risk of repetition, I tell you that we are not seeking to increase prices, but rather by mass production and economical administration to increase supplies. The only competition which we are contending against is that of the foreigner. There are many other small independent glass factories in various parts of the country, and there is plenty of room for all of those which are able to work on sound modern and economic lines.

I now come to the question of labour. Just as we think that the capital employed in the production of glassware for British consumption should be British, so also do we think with equal conviction should the labour employed be British.

The glass which in pre-war days came here in such enormous quantities was not only the product of foreign labour, but of cheap and sweated foreign labour. By re-establishing this industry on a large scale in this country, henceforth, it will, I trust, be the product of well-paid British labour. Despite our modern automatic machinery in our new factories, we can find work, and well-paid work, for thousands of men. The total capital required to cover the acquisitions to which I have just referred, and to complete the projected extensions of our works at Canning Town, Queenborough, and elsewhere, together with the installation of the improved automatic machinery, is £2,800,000. £2,100,000 of this will be provided by the issue of 600,000 new shares, which will be offered share for share at £3 10s. to shareholders, and having regard to the price of our shares this issue should in itself constitute a handsome bonus to shareholders. It is of course possible, and indeed probable, that in some cases shareholders will be unable to take up the shares to which they are entitled. But even in this case they should gain a handsome benefit, as the rights are transferable, and these should be saleable at a substantial price, as they were on a previous occasion. The remaining 200,000 shares now to be issued have been taken firm by Commercial Bank of London at the same price, thereby providing the balance of £700,000. The Bank also have been given an option to subscribe for a further 50,000 shares on or before December 31st next, at £5 per share.

And I would like to take this opportunity of expressing our thanks to the Commercial Bank of London for the help they have rendered this Company from its inception. The Bank has not only been of invaluable service in introducing and helping with the negotiations for our new acquisitions, but it has always been ready with the financial assistance when needed in the early stages of our Company, when there was considerable prejudice existing against a new construction proposition involving such an immense outlay. I think I have now said sufficient to satisfy you that the proposals which we are putting before you are in the best interests of the Company and the shareholders, and I will therefore now move the formal resolution, and I will ask Sir Francis Towle to second it. Before putting it to the meeting, should any shareholder wish to make any remarks, or to ask any questions I shall be pleased to answer them to the best of my ability.

The resolution increasing the capital of the Company was unanimously passed, and a hearty vote of thanks to the Chairman and Directors terminated the proceedings.

For Sundays: Morning, the NATIONAL NEWS; evening, the SUNDAY EVENING TELEGRAM.

'BULLETS' £250 'BULLETS'

1ST PRIZE £20 — **2ND PRIZE £10** — **3RD PRIZE £5**

10 PRIZES OF £5	10 PRIZES OF £2 : 10	25 PRIZES OF 10s.	200 PRIZES OF 5s.	1,000 PRIZES OF 2s. 6d.	3,000 "TARGET" PRIZES.

HOW TO MAKE "BULLETS."

Choose any of the Thirty-two examples given below. Then give **TWO, THREE** or **FOUR** words having some bearing on the example chosen. Any **ONE** of the words selected must begin with any letter in the example chosen. The other words selected can begin with any letters in the alphabet. These examples will guide you: Example:—**PAST WORK.** Bullet:—**GOVERNMENT THINKS TOMMY.** Example:—**FORGING AHEAD.** Bullet:—**SHOULD BE BRITAIN'S AIM.** Competitors may send in two BULLETS for sixpence. If more coupons are used, an entry fee at the rate of 6d. for each coupon must be sent. Result of this Competition will be found in our issue dated Feb. 28th.

LIST OF EXAMPLES FOR "BULLETS" COMPETITION No. 363.

WHEN BOTTOMLEY HELPS	LABOUR BOSSES	IRELAND'S FUTURE	HEADING THE POLL
CHARLES PALMER	MUST BE TACKLED	CAN'T BE AVOIDED	WITHOUT LEAVE
LOOKING FOR SEAT	NO WONDER	RACING	LIFTING THE VEIL
DONE ENOUGH	FLAT SEASON	NOT A WORD	BAD SPIRITS
WHAT AMERICA'S AFTER	STORM BREWING	GOING BACK	DRIVING A BARGAIN
WON'T BE MISSED	PAID IN FULL	HARD TO TELL	CAUGHT NAPPING
WE DON'T WANT	FORGING AHEAD	PAST WORK	WHEN SWEETHEARTS PART
ANNOYING THE DUTCH	SAFE AND SOUND	ON THE QUIET	NOTHING TO SHOUT ABOUT

No. _____ Closing Date, Thursday, February 12th.
Example _____
Bullet _____
Example _____
Bullet _____
(363) P.O. No. _____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page.
If 1 coupon is used P.O. for 6d. must be sent.
Signed _____
Address _____

☞ IF UNABLE TO SECURE EXTRA COUPONS YOU CAN WRITE YOUR "BULLETS" ON PLAIN PAPER.

No. _____ Closing Date, Thursday, February 12th.
Example _____
Bullet _____
Example _____
Bullet _____
(363) P.O. No. _____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page.
If 2 coupons are used P.O. for 1/- must be sent.
Signed _____
Address _____

ENVELOPES SHOULD BE MARKED "BULLETS" No. 333, "JOHN BULL," LONG ACRE, LONDON, W.C.2

No. _____ Closing Date, Thursday, February 12th.
Example _____
Bullet _____
Example _____
Bullet _____
(363) P.O. No. _____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page.
If 5 coupons are used P.O. for 1/6 must be sent.
Signed _____
Address _____

No. _____ Closing Date, Thursday, February 12th.
Example _____
Bullet _____
Example _____
Bullet _____
(363) P.O. No. _____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page.
If 4 coupons are used P.O. for 2s. must be sent.
Signed _____
Address _____

Selection of Examples for "Bullets" Competition No. 364.

WELSH WIZARD—IN THE GARDEN—WANGLING—FACTS AND FIGURES—ENGAGING MAID—WHAT FATHER SAID—SUPPORTING TOMMY—WITHOUT A MASTER—LITTLE WONDER—LAME EXCUSE—WHEN IN DOUBT—BETTER DRINK—HER FIRST PROPOSAL—POSTMAN'S KNOCK—WHAT A TREAT—LOSING GAME—THE NEW BABY—BEFORE STRIKING—THE RIGHT HOME—DISGRACEFUL.

These examples can be made use of on the coupons above, and must reach us on or before **THURSDAY, Feb. 19th.** All coupons so used **MUST** be clearly marked with the number **364** in the top left-hand corner, and envelopes containing these coupons must be addressed "Bullets" No. 364, "John Bull," Long Acre, London, W.C.2. Such coupons must not contain any of the Thirty-two examples for Competition 363.

List of 10s. Prizewinners in "Bullets" Competition 361 will be published in next week's "Competitors' Journal." Complete List of all Cash and Other Prizewinners can be seen at the Offices of "John Bull."

Result of 361st 'Bullets' Competition

FIRST PRIZE OF £250:
Mr. JOHN OGLESBY,
33, Upper Ormond Quay, Dublin.
Example:—UNPLEASANT.
Bullet:—AMERICA "MAKING EVERYTHING" LATELY.

SECOND PRIZE OF £20:
R. SHERBURN,
23, James St., Seaham Harbour.
Example:—WITHOUT A RIVAL.
Bullet:—RED FLAG MUSTN'T BE.

THIRD PRIZE OF £10:
Miss M. DAY,
31, Canterbury Rd., West Croydon.
Example:—WHAT'S THE MATTER.
Bullet:—DOESN'T AFFECT QUACK'S REMEDY.
(Sent in on a Free "Target" Prize Coupon.)

10 PRIZES OF £5 EACH:
MR. A. MCKAY, 15, Step Row, Dundee: PLAYING WRONG GAME—ALL "CHARGING" TOO MUCH.
MR. J. JEFFREY, 13, Barry St., Londonderry, Ireland: JUSTICE—"HAND OUT" TO TOMMY.
MR. W. FIDLER, Longnor, Buxton: LOOKING AFTER TOMMY—BUT HOW LONG AFTER?
MR. R. D. MONK, 45, Emmanuel Rd., Hastings: HARD HIT——FEW DIVIDENDS—BY WAR.
MISS T. SWARBRICK, 11, St. Austin's Rd., Preston: JUSTICE——ARM LONG—SIGHT SHORT.
MR. W. C. MANN, 91, St. George's Rd., S.W.1: KEEPING HIS PROMISE—OR SHE KEEPS PRESENTS.
MR. A. FREDERICK, 56, Emily St., W. Bromwich: KNOWING CARD — ASKS QUESTIONS BEFORE STRIKING.
MR. J. RATCLIFFE, 93, Crawford Ave., Liverpool: PROVING HER WORTH—GERMANY PREFERS HIDING IT.
MRS. C. MINETT, 2, The Owls, Gloucester Rd., Kingston: WITHOUT A RIVAL—CHURCHES WOULD LIKE SUNDAY.
F. W. COZENS, 3, Ridley Rd., Rochester, Kent: LOOKING AFTER TOMMY—ONE "ORGAN" ENOUGH APPARENTLY.

10 PRIZES OF £2 10s. EACH:
MR. A. E. FOOTITT, 2a, Mint St., Lincoln: HARD HIT——BUT "HARDER HITTER"—LABOUR.
MR. C. HIBBERT, Steam Bakery, Pontypool, Mon.: WHAT'S THE MATTER——WITH MONEY—IT'S DISTRIBUTION.
MRS. ALLISON, 10, Spencer Gards., Eltham, S.E.9: CAN'T WORK——HIS TICKET—PREMIER TO-DAY.
MR. C. BUTLER, Haggots, Witchampton, Wimborne: INVITING TROUBLE—HANDING IT TO JAPAN.
MR. A. SIDDALL, 165, Halliwell St., Salford: FINDING THE LADY—DIFFICULT AT NIGHT CLUB.
(Sent in on a Free "Target" Prize Coupon.)
J. WELLS, 19, Jeffreys Rd., London S.W.4: KNOWING CARD——IN CAR—NOT "CART"
A. MOORE, Ballybrado, Cahir: OUT OF PLACE—CONSCIENCE BEHIND COUNTER.
MISS L. TURNER, 13, Rhondda Place, West End, Halifax: TRUSTING WIFE — NO "FIGHTING" FOR "PURSE."
MISS L. ILLINGWORTH, 156, St. Leonard's Road, Girlington, Bradford: NOT SO DUSTY—WHEN "DUCS." COME OFF.
(Sent in on a Free "Target" Prize Coupon.)
MR. F. G. HEALEY, Infirmary, Orrell, near Wigan: OUT OF PLACE—WHERE THE DRESS "RISE."

BULLETS RULES. 1. The First Prize will be awarded for what, in the opinion of the Judges, in consultation with the Editor, is the best "Bullet" received, and the other prizes in order of merit, the test being cleverness, aptness and originality. The right to divide a prize or prizes among two or more competitors is reserved.
2. Bullets must be plainly written on one of the coupons, and only two attempts may be written on each coupon.
3. All four coupons may be used, but each coupon must be accompanied by a postal order for 6d., made payable to JOHN BULL and crossed _____ and Co. Competitors must write their names and addresses and the date of sending the order on the back of the postal order, the number of which must be duly noted on each coupon submitted. Competitors sending more than one coupon may enclose one postal order for the full amount covering the number of their coupons. Coupons must not be defaced in any manner.
4. All coupons arriving too late to be judged with absolute thoroughness will be duly returned to their respective senders.
5. The Editor undertakes that every Bullet received shall have careful consideration by a competent staff of qualified judges.
6. The Editor's decision on any matter of dispute arising in connection with this competition must be accepted as final and legally binding in all respects, and acceptance of this rule is an express condition of entry.

THE JOHN BULL GREAT FREE FIRE INSURANCE

COVERING ALL RISKS BY FIRE TO HOME, LIFE & LIMB.

UNDER this most unique FREE INSURANCE OFFER anyone above the age of 16 can be insured irrespective of pay. The premiums charged by any Fire and Accident Insurance Company to secure similar benefits would certainly exceed £5 per annum. Yet this is yet absolutely free.

We have made our insurance as simple and comprehensive as possible, and shall not bother about any "Legal representative" or "next of kin." Claims will be paid to the registered reader, who must personally sign the coupon, or to the person nominated thereon, and to no one else.

A separate coupon must be filled up in respect of each person to be insured.

This offer applies only to persons residing in, and property situated in, England, Scotland, and Wales.

The full conditions governing this scheme will be published in the first issue of each month.

WHAT WE WILL PAY:

For Damage to contents of Home by Fire up to	£200
In case of Death directly due to Fire at Registered Reader's home	£200
For the Loss of Two Limbs or Both Eyes, or One Limb and One Eye	£200
For the Loss of One Limb or One Eye ..	£100
Medical Fees for Injuries not proving fatal but incapacitating the injured person from following his, or her, employment, up to ..	£10
In the event of a Temporary Total Disablement up to 13 weeks ..	£1 per week

ORDER FORM
To be Retained by Newsagent.

To .....Newsagent.
Please deliver "JOHN BULL" to me regularly until further notice
Signed .....
Address .....
Feb. 7, 1920.

You must also fill in the Registration Form, which will be found next to this, and post it to JOHN BULL Insurance Dept., 63, Long Acre, London, W.C.2, where your name and the name of your nominee will be duly registered.

REGISTRATION FORM
Which must be posted to—
JOHN BULL INSURANCE DEPT., Long Acre, W.C.2.

This is to notify that I have this day placed an order for the regular weekly supply of JOHN BULL with

.....Newsagent, of

and desire you to register me as a regular subscriber under the terms of your Insurance Scheme.

In the event of my being injured or killed, or of my home or its contents being damaged, I hereby nominate to receive any payment due under this insurance, first myself, or in the event of my death:—

Name of Nominee .....
Address .....
Signature of Insured .....
(Mr., Mrs., or Miss)
Home Address .....
Feb. 7, 1920. .....

To remain qualified for the benefits, readers must continue to have "John Bull" regularly supplied to them.
Enclose 2d. stamp if an acknowledgment of receipt of Registration Form is required.

BIG WEEKLY PRIZE.

A BIG FOOTBALL PRIZE MUST BE WON EVERY WEEK.

£250 MUST BE WON!

FOR TEN WINNING TEAMS

OR NEXT LARGEST NUMBER OF WINNING TEAMS.

£5,700 has already been won this season. Have you won a prize yet? The sum of £250 will be paid to the sender of ten winning teams selected from those given on the coupon on this page. Should no competitor succeed in giving ten winning teams, the prize of £250 will be awarded to the sender of the next largest number of winning teams. This competition is open for one week, and coupons can only be taken from this week's issue.

NO ENTRANCE FEE—GREAT ONE-WEEK COMPETITION.

This competition is exclusive to "John Bull," and coupons do not appear in any other paper. There is no entrance fee of any kind. Competitors can send as many coupons as they like. Scottish and Irish readers may compete. A careful study of football form should be made before filling in coupons. The "National News" gives the best and most accurate reports and forecasts every Sunday, which should prove of great assistance to intending competitors.

Cut out coupon neatly and address all entries as follows:—"Football Competition No. 22, JOHN BULL, 25, Floral Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2." Write "Football" in top left-hand corner of envelope. All coupons can be enclosed in one envelope, but this must not contain entries for other competitions.

YOU CAN SEND AS MANY COUPONS AS YOU LIKE.

For result of Football Competition No. 19 see Page 14.

Read these Rules Carefully.

(1) All attempts must be made on coupons taken from the issue of JOHN BULL announcing this competition. Coupons must be written in ink (typewriting or pencil will not be allowed), and must be filled up in accordance with the instructions given on this page.

(2) The sum of £250 (Two Hundred and Fifty Pounds) will be paid to the sender of a coupon giving any ten winning teams from amongst those playing on February 14th, given on the coupon on this page and as set out on that coupon. If no competitor succeeds in giving ten winning teams the prize of £250 will be paid to the sender of the next largest number of winning teams as described above. If two or more competitors succeed in giving ten winning teams, or failing that, succeed in sending the next largest number of winning teams, the £250 will be divided equally amongst them.

(3) Should any match not be played to a finish on the date given or as set out on the coupon, it will be disregarded, and winning teams from the remaining fixtures only will be allowed to count.

(4) Any coupon which has marked upon it more than ten Xs or less than ten Xs will be disqualified.

(5) No responsibility will be accepted by the Editor for the loss or non-delivery of any coupon. Proof of posting will not be accepted as proof of delivery or receipt. No correspondence will be entered into nor will interviews be granted.

(6) Any coupon on which an alteration of any kind has been made will be disqualified.

(7) Our employees are debarred from entering the competition.

(8) Any coupons received later than Thursday, February 12th will be disqualified.

(9) The Editor's decision must be accepted as final and legally binding in all matters concerning this competition, and acceptance of this rule is an express condition of entry.

NEXT WEEK—**FOR ONE WEEK ONLY**—NEXT WEEK

SPECIAL 3rd ROUND CUP TIE AND LEAGUE FOOTBALL PRIZE.

£500—MUST BE WON FOR TEN WINNING TEAMS or next largest number of winning teams.

HOW TO MARK YOUR COUPONS.

If you think the "Home" team will win put a X in the left-hand column headed "Home Win"; if you think the "Away" team will win put a X in the right-hand column headed "Away Win." Only ten teams must be marked in all. If more or less than ten Xs appear on any one coupon it will be disqualified. Coupons MUST be written in ink.

"JOHN BULL" FREE FOOTBALL COUPON.

Matches to be played Saturday, February 14th. Coupons must reach us not later than Thursday, February 12th.

Home Win	Home Team		Away Team	Away Win
	Manchester United	v.	Sunderland	
	Oldham Athletic	v.	The Arsenal	
	Preston North End	v.	Sheffield Wednesday	
	Sheffield United	v.	West Bromwich A.	
	Barnsley	v.	Birmingham	
	Clapton Orient	v.	Bristol City	
	Port Vale	v.	West Ham United	
	South Shields	v.	Huddersfield Town	
	Exeter City	v.	Cardiff City	
	Luton Town	v.	Millwall Athletic	
	Merthyr Town	v.	Crystal Palace	
	Norwich City	v.	Watford	
	Swansea Town	v.	Queen's Pk. Rangers	
	Dumbarton	v.	Hibernians	
	Hearts	v.	Dundee	
	Queen's Park	v.	Aberdeen	

Coupons must be cut—not torn out.

I enter "John Bull" Football Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions on this page and agree to accept the Editor's decision as final and legally binding, and enter on that understanding.

SIGNED .....

22 ADDRESS .....

.....

The M.I.E.E. Institute of Automobile Engineering, Newcastle, gives the best practical training in Great Britain, and imparts such technical knowledge as will make you or your son fit for a commanding position in the Great Motor Industry.

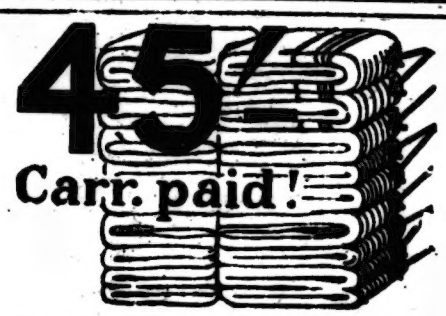
Complete Practical Training in Motor Engineering
Salesmanship
Overhauling Garage Work
Motor Driving Demonstrating, Etc., etc., etc.

The Motor Trade affords countless opportunities for advancement. For years and years the demand for cars, garages and mechanical knowledge of the motor industry will far exceed the supply. Therefore this is your opportunity. Be independent, achieve success and prosperity and comfort for old age. The Institute has some of the finest machinery for instructional purposes.

Parents Can Solve the Problem of Their Sons' Future. Full particulars of our Works and Organisation are given in interesting literature sent free. Comfortable board-residence arranged for country pupils. ADDRESS—

M.I.C. Institute of Automobile Engineering
(Dept. 36), Hood Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Mentioned by the Ministry of Labour in the House of Commons. Appointed by the Royal Automobile Club in 1917. The only Motor Engineering Institute in Great Britain.



45/- Carr. paid!

2 Heavy Blankets
1 "Alhambra" Quilt
2 Pillow Cases
1 Bolster Case
2 Twill Sheets
1 Tablecloth (*free*)

MOST WONDERFUL BARGAIN EVER OFFERED TO THE PUBLIC

Pair of heavy made full double bed size white fleecy Blankets.
One large full double bed size real "Alhambra" Quilt.
Two hemmed white bleached Pillow Cases (buttoned and turned-in edges).
One hemmed white bleached Bolster Case (buttoned and turned-in edges).
Pair of Lancashire made full double bed size grey Twill Sheets.
FREE One hemmed and finished lovely designed damask Tablecloth.

This splendid Bargain Bale sent Carriage Paid to any address for only 45/- Money returned in full if not absolutely satisfied.

Don't Delay—Send Remittance at once and secure this genuine offer.

The Milton Drapery Stores (Dept. 36), Padiham, Lancs.

A Splendid Investment

Can be secured at small cost. It is possible to

BUY YOUR HOUSE

by the Splendid schemes with or without Life Assurance benefits offered

THROUGH

THE CITY LIFE

And utilise the rent for the repayments.

Particulars Free—
Apply D.B. J.B., 6, Paul Street, Finsbury, E.C. 2.

Rheumatism

Acute agonising pain is instantly stopped by Smedley's Paste. You will be astonished at the relief from Rheumatism, Sciatica, Lumbago, etc., obtained by only one application.

SMEDLEY'S PASTE

Of all Chemists 1/3, 2/-, 2/- a jar, or from—
Hirst, Brooke & Hirst, Ltd., Leeds.

For over 40 years a reliable remedy for Pains in the Back, Lumbago, Dropsy, Gravel, Bright's Disease of the Kidneys, Gout, Wind and Water Ailments, Sciatica, and Rheumatism.

HOLDROYD'S PILLS

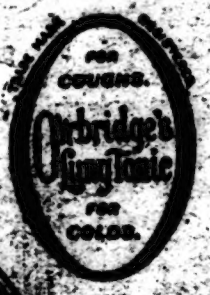
HUNDREDS OF TESTIMONIALS.
all Chemists, 1/3 Post Free 14 Stamps.
PREPARED ONLY AT
HOLDROYD'S MEDICAL HALL,
CLECKHEATON, Yorks.

GRAVES OF SHEFFIELD

Write for patterns, post free, of Overcoats, Suits, Costumes, Paletots, Raincoats, Mackintoshes etc., or Catalogues of Footwear, Wool Scarfs, Drapery, Ladies' and Children's Clothing, Sheffield Cutlery, Gramophones and Records, Tea and Dinner Services, Bedsteads, Bedding, Sewing Machines, Cycles, Tyres, Carpets and Linoleum, Poultry & Appliances, etc. Grand values. EASY TERMS
J. G. GRAVES LTD. SHEFFIELD

TATCHO
The HAIR GROWER
Mr. Geo. R. Sims' discovery 1/3, 2/9, 4/6

THE "JOHN BULL" GUARANTEE. *We guarantee the goods advertised by every firm whose trade announcement appears in* JOHN BULL, *i.e., we hold ourselves responsible for their being of the quality and standard represented at the time of purchase and the date of payment, either in full or of first instalment, and if any reader can show just cause for dissatisfaction with the purchase of any goods made through any trade advertisement in our columns, we will refund the purchase money, provided the goods complained of are sent to us within one week from the date of original purchase. All communications should be addressed to* JOHN BULL, *Advertisement Department, 93, Long Acre, London, W.C.2.*



The British Remedy.

Owbridge's

Lung Tonic

for

COUGHS & COLDS

Ask for "Owbridge" and take no substitute.

Prepared by
W. T. OWBRIDGE, Ltd.,
Manufacturers, The Laboratory, HULL.
Established 1874.

Printed and published for the Proprietors (John Bull, Ltd.), by ODHAMS LIMITED, 93 and 94, Long Acre, London, W.C.2. Agents for the Colonies, Gordon and Gotch, Ltd., London, Australia, Canada, etc.: South Africa, Central News Agency, Ltd.; also Imperial News Co., Ltd.; Toronto News Co., Ltd., and Montreal News Co., Ltd., Canada.